JUMP COMICS SQ.

屍鬼

SHI KI

原作 小野不由美
漫画 藤崎竜

江渕クリニック
ici n'est
pas respirer
c'est agir

OZAKI TOSHIO, PART 8: NIGHT

OCTOBER, 24 MONDAY
BUTSUMETSU-LATE EVENING

SFX: TA TA TA - RUNNING

I'LL RUN SO FAST THE DARKNESS WON'T CATCH UP WITH ME!

I'LL RUN!

SFX: PURU - VOICE TREMBLING
RITSU-CHAN?
HELLO, KUNIHIRO LISTENING.
OH, IS IT YOU, KIYOMI -SAN?
I GOT A PHONE CALL FROM KIYOMI-SAN JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO.

SFX: GACHA - PICKING UP THE RECEIVER

SFX: HAA - HEAVY BREATHING

SFX: PA PO PI - DIALING

I JUST RECEIVED A CALL FROM KIYOMI-SAN, SHE WAS CRYING FOR HELP!

I'M GOING TO HER RIGHT NOW!

SENSEI, IS IT YOU?!

IT'S RITSUKO!

SFX: GACHA - THROWING THE RECEIVER

WHA—

NO, WAIT, RITSU-CHAN!

SFX: TA TA TA - RUNNING

THIS IS A STORY OF HOW I DIED.

Ozaki Toshio, part 8: Night

NOT WITH SO MANY PEOPLE AROUND DYING AND DISAPPEARING.

IT DOESN'T MEAN MY DEATH WAS IN ANY WAY NOTEWORTY.

FUNERALS BECAME A DAILY OCCURENCE.

YOU DON'T WANT US TO HELP WITH THE WAKE?

OCTOBER 18
TUESDAY BUTSUMETSU
OZAKI KYOUKO'S WAKE

WE'LL BE PLENTY FINE WITH JUST US, THE WOMEN FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

SORRY, BUT COULD YOU WORK ON ACCOUNT BOOKS OR DO SOME OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE INSTEAD?

EH?

BUT WHY?!

BECAUSE OF THE EPIDEMIC!

SFX: BATAN - DOOR SLAMMING SHUT

SEE YOU LATER!

SFX: SOSOKUSA - BEATING HASTY RETREAT

SINCE WE WORK AT THE CLINIC, WE'RE THE HIGH-RISK GROUP, YOU SEE.

PEOPLE THINK IT'S PREPOSTEROUS AND OUTRIGHT DANGEROUS TO EAT FOOD PREPARED BY US.

SFX: BATA - GETA CLACKING

HEY, YOU PEOPLE!

WHY ARE YOU LAZING ABOUT HERE?!

OH...

I SEE...

B-BUT...!

PLEASE, HURRY UP AND GO ELSEWHERE, WILL YOU!

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THE INTIATIVE AND GO GET SOME WORK DONE?!

I DO NOT WANT PEASANTS LIKE YOU PLAYING AROUND IN MY HOUSE AND TOUCHING THINGS!

SFX: BISHI - STRICT TONE

LAST TIME I CHECKED WE WEREN'T YOUR SERVANTS!

HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME IN THAT TONE?!

I'LL TELL TOSHIO TO FIRE YOU!!!

YOU SEEM TO FORGET WHO PAYS YOU YOUR MONEY!

SFX: GYARO - DUMBFOUNDED

IT'S SOOO NOT THE SAME AS A SERVANT!

THE 'CLINIC' PAYS ME A 'SALARY' FOR WORKING AS A 'NURSE'!

SATO-CHAN!

SFX: HO HO HO

OH, REALLY?! THEN GO AHEAD! BY ALL MEANS!

THERE'RE PLENTY OF HOSPITALS EVERYWHERE IN NEED OF NURSES!

AUAAAA!!!

AND SENSEI DOESN'T EVEN CARE THAT YUKI-CHAN IS GONE!

IF HE DOESN'T, THEN IT'S PROBABLY THE RIGHT THING TO QUIT ANYWAY...

I SHOULD JUST DO IT...

SFX: GYO - SHOCKED

FROM THAT DAY ON SATO-CHAN STOPPED COMING TO WORK.

Letter of Resignation

THREE DAYS LATER SHE SENT HER LETTER OF RESIGNATION BY MAIL.

Letter of Resignation

YOU REALLY HAVE NO IDEA, DO YOU?

SENSEI, DO YOU EVEN KNOW THAT YUKI-KUN WENT MISSING?

SFX: HUH

WHY?

ISAKI -KUN WANTS TO QUIT?

SFX: GACHA - OPENING THE DOOR

IT WAS WHEN MY HEAD WAS SO FULL OF KYOUKO I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE...

AH, I REMEMBER NOW...

SHIOMI -KUN'S MISSING...?

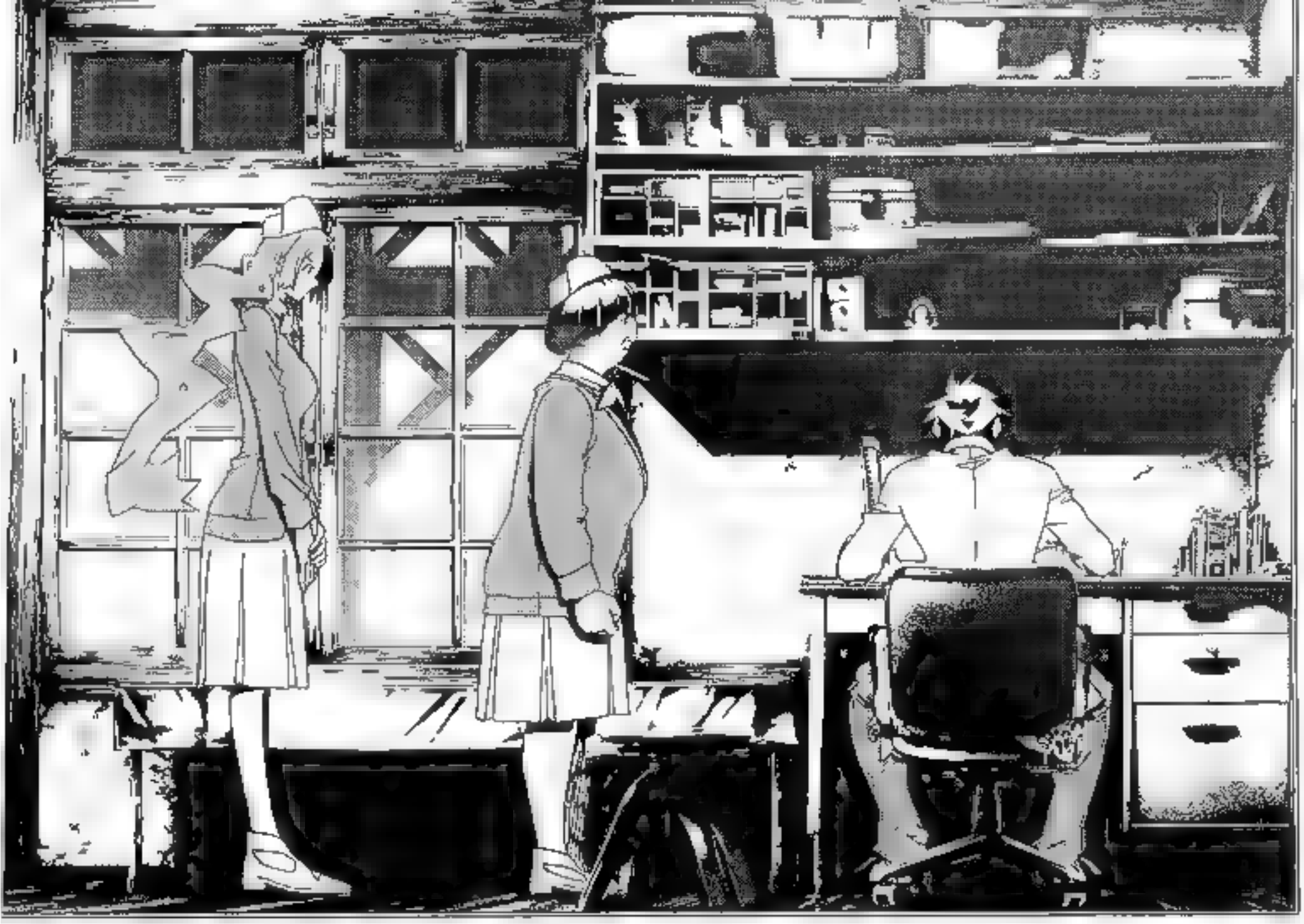
SO IT'S MY FAULT?

YOUR COLD INDIFFERENCE TO WHAT HAPPENED TO YUKI-CHAN AND THE OLD LADY'S ATTITUDE COMBINED WAS MORE THAN SATO-CHAN COULD TAKE!

NOW IT CANNOT BE HELPED ALREADY, SENSEI, EVEN IF YOU REGRET IT!

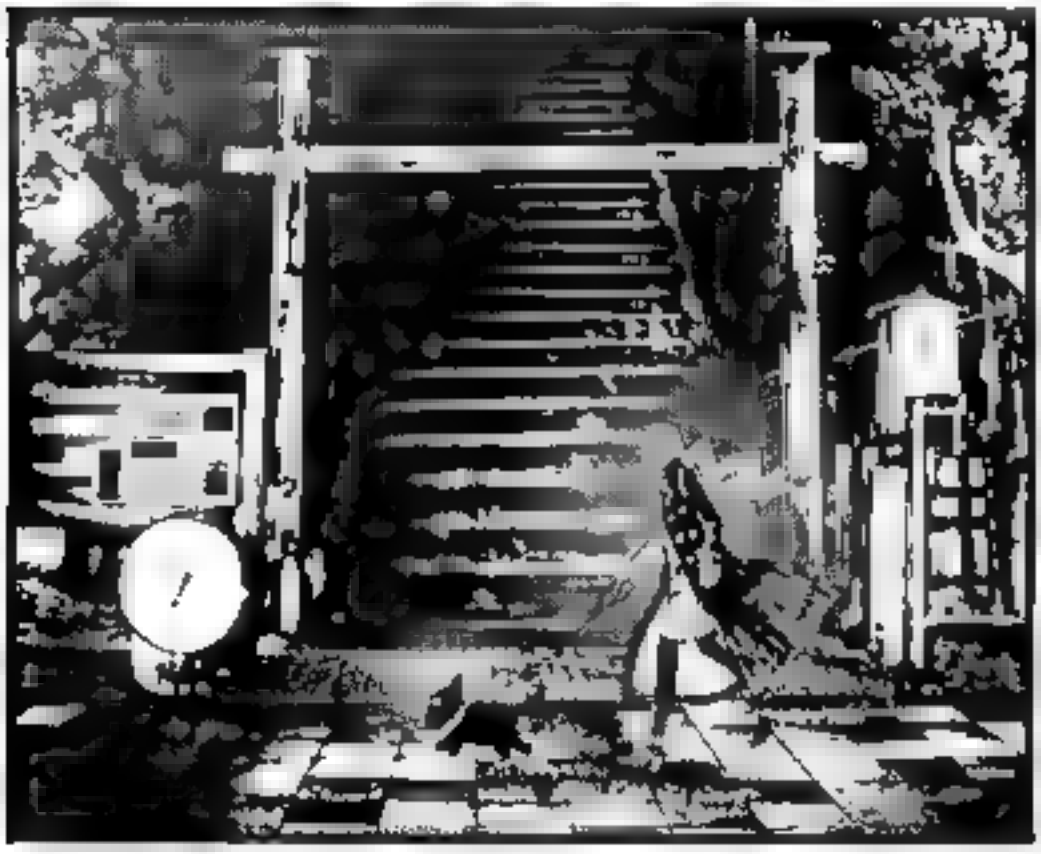
OR MY WORDS DID NOT INDICATE THAT MUCH WITH ENOUGH CLARITY FOR YOU?

THAT IS WHAT I AM SAYING!



SFX: PUI - LEAVING, MIFFED

SFX: BATA - SLAMMING DOOR SHUT



BUT EVEN WHEN HE FOUND HIMSELF IN THAT DIFFICULT SITUATION, THERE WAS NO DESPAIR IN SENSEI'S EYES
THAT'S WHEN I THOUGHT I COULD BELIEVE IN HIM

SFX: TA TA TA - RUNNING

TSURUMI-SAN DIED?

EH?

TO BE EXACT, IT WILL HAPPEN IN THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 20, 2 DAYS AFTER THE WAKE FOR THE YOUNG DOCTOR'S WIFE.

DUE TO A LIVER FAILURE, I'M TOLD.

YES...

TSURUMI-SAN DID?!

I AM SORRY I DID NOT INFORM YOU EARLIER, BUT IT WAS BECAUSE MY HUSBAND REQUESTED ME NOT TO.

HIS FUNERAL SERVICE IS ALREADY OVER.

THE TEMPLE HAS IT TOUGH AS IT IS WITHOUT ME ADDING, SO DON'T TELL THEM I GOT HOSPITALIZED IN THE MUTUAL AID HOSPITAL.

AND IF I DIE, ASK THE FUNERAL PARLOR TO HANDLE MY FUNERAL SERVICE, NOT THE TEMPLE..

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE FOR US THROUGHOUT ALL THESE YEARS.

YES, PLEASE.

MY SINCERE CONDOLENCES. I WILL VISIT HIS BURIAL IF YOU DON'T MIND.

I...

SEE ..

I GOTTA TELL THE NEWS TO FATHER, I GUESS

SFX. GACHA - HANGING UP

FATHER'S NOWHERE TO BE FOUND.

MOTHER.

WHAT IS IT, SEISHIN?

SFX: PIN PON - DOORBELL

I WONDER IF THERE'S EVEN ONE HOUSE LEFT NOW WHERE NOBODY DIED?

SFX: TATATA - RUNNING

SFX PINPON - DOORBELL

AH?

I SEE.

TAKI-SAN, I AM SORRY I GOT DELAYED BECAUSE OF A HUGE WORK LOAD AND--

SFX: GARA - SEEING A TOTAL STRANGER

TAKI-SAAAN! IT'S KATOU, A TECHNICIAN FROM THE MAINTENANCE FIRM!

VILLAGER FILE NO.79
KATOU MINORU
MANAGER OF THE KATOU ELECTRICS
ALSO A CONTRACTOR FOR THE YASUMORI MAINTENANCE COMPANY

WHO IS THIS OLD CHAP?

I CAME TO FIX YOUR BACK DOOR!

EXCUSE ME, BUT

IS TAKI JUUZOU-SAN HOME?

'S ME.

I'M SURE, CAUSE I'VE SEEN HIM MANY TIMES, DELIVERING HIM HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES OR FOR HIS ANTENNA REPAIRS!

NO-NO, IT'S SOME KINDA MISTAKE. MUST BE, CAUSE WHILE THIS GUY IS ALSO A BALD OLD FELLA, JUUZOU-SAN LOOKS LIKE THIS:

Ha Ha Ha

SIGN: TAKI JUUZOU

IN ANY CASE, GO ROUND, TO THE BACK OF THE HOUSE, THE BACK DOOR IS THERE, IF YOU'RE NOT AWARE OF THIS FACT.

SFX: PISHA – SLAMMING THE DOOR SHUT

WOW, REALLY? WHAT A USELESS BRAT!

--THAT'S WHAT HE SAID, CAN YOU IMAGINE?!

HUUH?

EXCUSE ME!

COULD YOU PLEASE TELL ME IF THE MAN I JUST TALKED TO WAS TAKI JUUZOU -SAN OR NOT?

WHAT KIND OF QUESTION IS THAT?

OF COURSE IT WAS HIM!

INDEED!

LET'S GO INSIDE!

SFX: ZORO - TALKING

SFX: GARA - LEAVING, IRRITATED

SFX: GYU - SQUEEZE

NO-NO-NO! ONLY ONE OLD HAG'S SUPPOSED TO BE LIVING IN THAT HOUSE, YOU KNOW?!

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, PEOPLE?!

SFX: PAHA - SHUTTING THE DOOR WITH A SLAM

SFX. KORO - ROLLING IN HAND

SHE WAS SO INSISTENT ABOUT ME HAVING IT, SO I TOOK IT JUST TO SET HER MIND AT EASE .

LISTEN! YOU HAVE GOT TO HAVE IT ON YOU AT ALL TIMES, GOT IT?!

SMELLS LIKE INCENSE.

THE POUCH WITH A PROTECTIVE AMULET THAT MY MOM SEWED FOR ME

MY HAND MUST HAVE CLOSED ON IT ON ITS OWN WITHOUT ME REALIZING?

SFX. SAKU - SEWING

HAVING THIS SMALL POUCH FEELS SO REASSURING LIKE NOTHING ELSE...

THANK YOU, MOM...

SFX: TATA - RUNNING

THE TASHIRO BOOKSTORE...

SFX: GATA - SHAKING

SIGN: TASHIRO BOOKSTORE

SO WHAT'S WITH HIM, TOSHIO?

--THE CHILD OF THE OWNER OF THIS BOOKSTORE DISPLAYED THE NOW WIDELY COMMON SYMPTOMS AND WAS TAKED TO OUR CLINIC

JUST THIS MORNING--

MY SON TAKASHI...

IS HE A VICTIM OF THAT TOO?

SFX: GO - DAZEO

SFX: GATA - SHAKING

MASA-SAN, I BELIEVE I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU.

THIS IS NOT A DISEASE.

THE CHANCES ARE HIGH.

DO SOME-THING!!!

YOU'RE A DOCTOR, AREN'T YOU?!!

EH?!

SFX. GIRI - TEETH GRINDING

SFX: GRRR

SFX: BAN - SLAM

SFX: GUI - PUSHING THE CHILD

DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS!

TAKASHI! WE'RE GOING TO THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL!

WE WON'T SET FOOT IN THIS CLINIC, NEVER AGAIN!!!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN IT'S NOT A DISEASE?

SENSEI...

.....

SFX: ZAZA - GRASS RUSTLING

NOTHING, JUST FORGET I SAID THAT.

COULD IT BE IT THAT THE SAME THOUGHT OCCURED TO SENSEI AS WELL?

?

WHAT DID YOU SEE?

SENSEI...

I SAW...

SFX: TATA - RUNNING AWAY

SFX: KURU - TURNING AROUND

SFX: GYU - FINGERS BALLING INTO FISTS

EVEN ONE MORE SUPPORTER WILL BE A BIG HELP.

TOMORROW I WILL INTRODUCE RITSU-CHAN TO NATSUNO-KUN AND TELL HER ABOUT OUR PLANS.

THEN WE SHOULD HAVE A PROPER TALK ABOUT THE UNDEAD.

SFX: SUTA - WALKING QUICKLY

THEN I SHOULD TAKE A ROUTE WITH A LOT OF HOUSES ON THE WAY..

NO ONE'S AROUND.

SFX TATATA - RUNNING

!

TONIGHT I'M REALLY LATE BECAUSE OF THE REHEARSAL OF THE UPCOMING SHIMOTSUKI KAGURA!

IT'S SO DARK ALREADY.

VILLAGER FILE NO.55
KOIKE MASAHARU

SFX: HAA - HEAVY BREATHING

SHE'S RUNNING SO FAST...

ISN'T THAT KUNIHIRO-SAN'S DAUGHTER?

IT'S NICE TO BE SO YOUNG AND ENERGETIC, ISN'T IT.

SFX: HOHOHO

GOOD EVENING!

OH? THERE'RE PLENTY OF PEOPLE STILL WALKING AROUND, AFTER ALL!

SFX: AHAHAHA

G'EVENING!

WHO WAS THAT, AGAIN?

.....

--THE KID WHO COLLAPSED AND DIED AT THE PACHINKO AND WHOSE FUNERAL TRAIN I HEADED... HE'S HIROSAWA--

THAT WAS--

SFX BA - TURNING ABRUPTLY

SFX: OA - THE UNDEAD CHARGING AFTER THE OLD MAN

--TAKATOSHI!!!

OH MY GOOD GOD!!!

SFX: BA - BREAKING INTO RUN, SCARED

THEY'RE AFTER ME!!!

ANYBODY!!!

I NEED TO ASK PEOPLE AT SOME HOUSE FOR HELP!!!

SOMEBODY!!!

!!!

IT'S DIVINE SALVATION STRAIGHT FROM HEAVEN!!!

SFX GARA - APPEARING

WHO'S BEING SO NOISY?

OH?

THESE GUYS ARE--

C-C-CALL THE POLICE!!!

SFX ZAZA - FALLING

TAKATOSHI! IT'S YOU!

AH, IT'S YOU, MA'AM!

UUU

UUU

SFX: WAI – CHEERFUL TALK

AND MY DEAR HUSBAND ALSO ROSE FROM THE DEAD, YOU KNOW!

Hey! Long time no see Takatoshi-kun!

YEAH! COMPARED TO THE LIVING IN THE MOUNTAINS LIFE HERE IN THE VILLAGE'S SO MUCH EASIER!

SO YOU STARTED LIVING IN THE VILLAGE?

YOU NOW LIVE HERE AS WELL, MA'AM?

YES!

EH?!

SFX. GA - GRABBING

LUCKY YOU! AND I'M GLAD FOR YOU!

SFX. ZUGU - DRAGGING

WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY THEN!

SFX. SHU - RAISING A HAND

SO THEY ARE ALL...

OH!

THE UNDEAD...

TAKATOSHI-CHAN, BE MORE CAREFUL WHEN WALKING AROUND AT NIGHT, LEST THIS UNFORTUNATE OCCURENCE HAPPEN AGAIN, ALRIGHT?

I FEEL THAT IF I JUST KEEP RUNNING LOOKING ONLY STRAIGHT AHEAD, THE DARKNESS WON'T CATCH ME

YES I WON'T LOOK AROUND, I WILL HAVE EYES ONLY FOR MY DESTINATION

JUNKO-SAN PASSED AWAY ON OCTOBER 22.

THIS PLACE BELONGS TO THE MAIN HOUSE OF THE YASUMORI FAMILY THE MARUYASU SAWMILL

DEATH THAT STARTED WITH NAO-SAN FINALLY EXTENDED EVEN TO OTHER BRANCHES OF THE FAMILY

IT REACHED EVEN THE DRIVE-IN CHIGUSA.

IT SPREAD OVER EVEN TO MAEDA-SAN'S HOUSE, THEY'RE DYING ONE AFTER ANOTHER OVER THERE, IT SEEMS

SIGN. DRIVE-IN CHIGUSA

SFX. KYU - DRYING THE DISHES

OCTOBER 23
SUNDAY SENBU

ON THE APRON: CHIGUSA

SFX. BO - DAZED

I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING...

MOM...

HER MOTHER LOOKED STRANGE AT SHIORI-CHAN'S FUNERAL.

I WONDER IF EVERYBODY IN MOTOKO'S HOUSE IS OKAY.

MOM?

SFX. BO - BARELY CONSCIOUS

SFX. TATATA - RUNNING

JUST A LITTLE BIT FARTHER

SFX. BUOOOO - ENGINE ROARING

A BIT MORE AND I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE KIYOMI-SAN'S HOUSE

SIGN. EBUCHI CLINIC

LATELY A LOT OF PEOPLE SEEM TO GO TO THE EBUCHI CLINIC ONCE THEY NOTICE THE SYMPTOMS

IT'S LIKE PATIENTS PIN THEIR HOPES ON THIS CLINIC RATHER THAN OURS ..

AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT IN OUR VILLAGE?!

A TRUCK?!

!!

高砂運送

SIGN: TAKASAGO TRANSPORT COMPANY

SFX: BWO - SPEEDING

SFX OOO - SPEEDING

I HAD NO IDEA WHAT I SHOULD DO NEXT.

THAT WAS THE MOMENT WHEN I LOST PRESENCE OF MIND AND PANICKED.

I STOPPED AND JUST STOOD THERE, DAZED AND DUMBFOUNDED

SFX GASA - APPEARING

EVEN THOUGH I KNEW I MUSTN'T HAVE STOPPED...

SFX: GACHA - CAR DOOR OPENING

SFX: BURORO - SOUND OF ENGINE

SFX: KYAN - WHIPPING

RITSU-CHAN!!!

NO, THANKS.

I'LL JUST GO BACK HOME.

RITSU-CHAN...

PLEASE, LEAVE ME ALONE.

AND I'M QUITTING MY JOB AT THE CLINIC.

LET'S ADMIT YOU TO HOSPITAL.

SENSEI

PLEASE, TAKE CARE...

...OF THE VILLAGE...

I PROMISE YOU I WILL, RITSU-CHAN!!!

I WILL...

OZAKI TOSHIO, PART 9:
COFFIN

OCTOBER 3, MONDAY, TAIAN
RIVERSIDE AREA
ITOU IKUMI'S HOUSE

SFX: DOSU - STOMPING

AND SO IS MAEDA IWAO, WHO WAS FORCED TO LIVE HERE.

TANAKA AKIRA I LEFT HERE TIED IS GONE.

I CAN SMELL IT

A SMELL I KNOW FROM SOMEWHERE.

SFX. KUN KUN - SNIFFING

SEEMS LIKE SOMEONE ELSE HAS BEEN HERE.

Ozaki Toshio, part 9: Coffin

NOVEMBER 4, TUESDAY, SHAKK.
THE KIRISHIKI MANSION

JUST A LITTLE LONGER - AND THIS VILLAGE WILL BE OURS!

SOON!

WE WON'T HAVE TO WANDER IN SEARCH OF A SAFE PLACE ANYMORE!

THE VILLAGERS DON'T SEEM TO NOTICE THAT GRADUALLY THEY'RE BEING REPLACED WITH US, SHIKI.

I ASSISSTED WITH A LOT OF THINGS TOO. MY HELP WAS QUITE VALUABLE.

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SFX: MOGU - CHEWING

A CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS, HUH...

フゥ

I HAVE ALREADY GIVEN UP ON ANY WAY OF LIVING FOR US OTHER THAN HIDING IN THE DARKNESS OF NIGHT.

SFX: FUU - SIGH

.....

SFX: GIRORI - GLARE

ギロリ

DELICIOUS. ♡

ギロ

BUT WE CAN'T REST ASSURED UNTIL ALL THE LIVING VILLAGERS HAVE BEEN REPLACED WITH SHIKI!

INDEED, OUR GOAL IS CLOSE, SUNAKO!

SFX: GINRO - GLARE

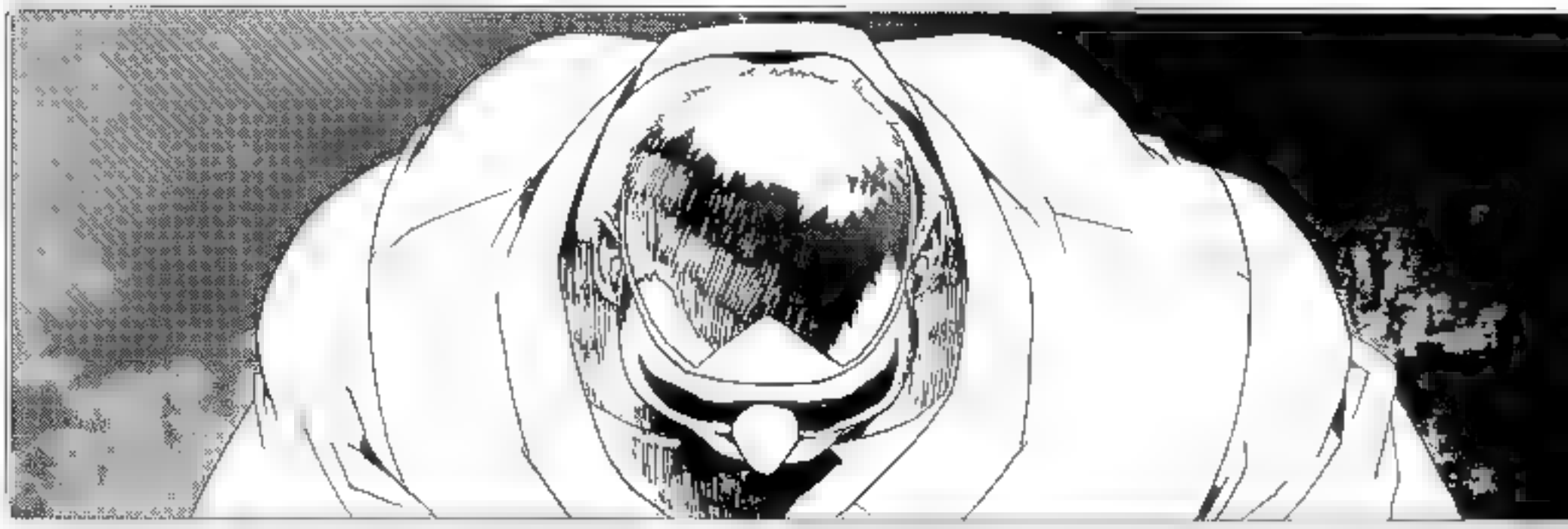
THERE'S STILL A CHANCE THAT ONE LITTLE SLIP MAY COST US ALL THE PROGRESS WE'VE MADE SO FAR!

WHATEVER YOU MIGHT BE TALKING ABOUT?

CHIZURU-SAN, YOUR ACTIONS AS OF LATE ARE UNEXCUSABLE!

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT, YOSHIE?

I'M TALKING ABOUT OOKAWA ATSUSHI!



-OOKAWA ATSUSHI CAME BACK TO LIFE.

ABOUT 10 DAYS EARLIER--

I'M LOCKED HERE?!

UOOOOOOOO!!!

SFX: BAN - KICKING THE DOOR IN

SFX: BAN- VIOLENT IMPACTS

SFX: 60 - SLAMMING INTO THE DOOR

OPEN UP!!!!

LEMME OUTTA--

--HERE!!!!

SFX: GARARAN - DOOR SLAMMING INTO THE WALL

!!

SFX: GASA - RUSTLE

DAMN!!! THIS PASSAGE IS ALSO LOCKED!

SFX: GACHA - PULLING THE KNOB

WHO'S THERE?!!

SFX: GA - SUPPRESED SFX: GASA - SHIFTING, RUSTLING

HAHH

HYUU

SHIT! TALKING TO HER AIN'T GONNA GET ME NOWHERE!

HAHH

HYUU

HEY, WHAT'S THIS PLACE?!

THE KEYS!!!

!

YOU GOT CAPTURED, TOO?!

HEY!

SFX: ZUI - TRAPDOOR OPENING

SFX: BATA - CRAWLING AWAY FRANTICALLY

SFX: GACHA - UNLOCKING

STOP!!!!

MERCY!!!!

DON'T TRY TO RUN AWAY!!!

SFX: GUI - JERKING UP

SFX: KYA - SCREAMING

SFX: GURIN – HEAD FALLING LISTLESSLY

SFX: GA – IMPACT

SFX: GYA BATA – WRITHING AND SCREAMING

SFX: GURIN – DANGLING LIFELESSLY

I AIN'T GONNA HURT YOU!

ANSWER ME, DAMMIT!!!

I'M JUST ASKING WHAT THIS PLACE IS!

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!!!!

SFX: GUKU - GUGGLING

SFX: TSUN - POKING

H-HEY..!

SFX: DOSA - COLLAPSING

WHOA!!!

SFX: GATA - LIKE FLAILING

UWAAA!!!

AH, WHAT A BOLD THING TO DO.

SFX: GATA - SHAKING

I...

HUH?

WHAT HAVE I....

I SEEM TO REMEMBER THIS WOMAN...

IT'S OK IF WE HAPPEN TO KILL A HUMAN OR TWO.

I DON'T REALLY MIND.

YOU'RE THE FIRST TO KILL HIS PREY EVEN WITHOUT BEING TOLD TO DO SO. ♡

OK TO KILL...?

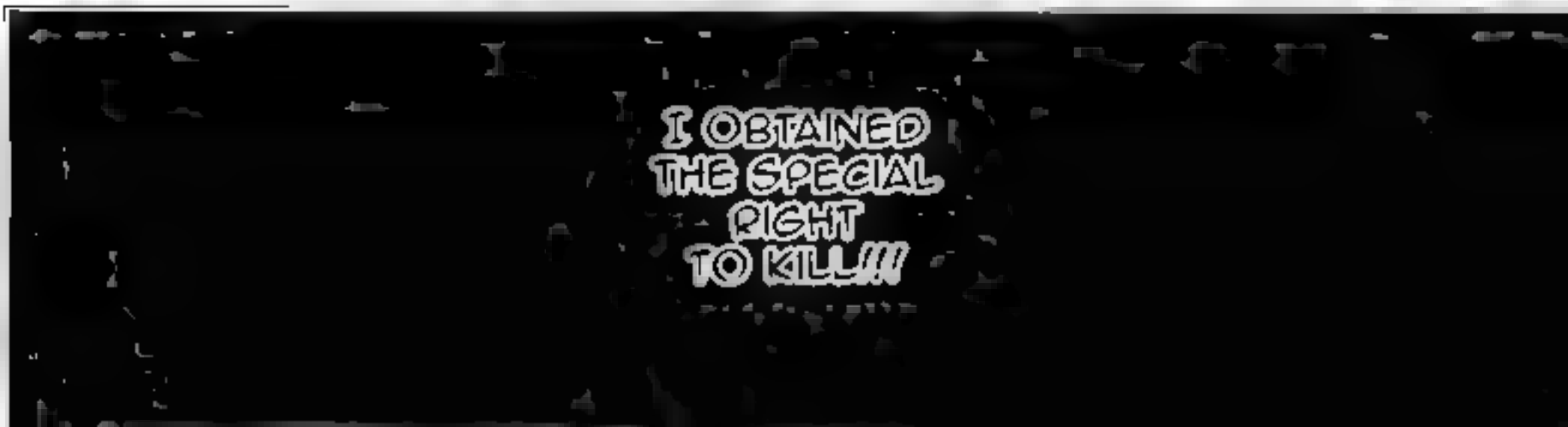
HAVE SOME FUN...?

AND NOW WE'RE GOING TO HAVE SOME FUN.

RIGHT?

I....

YEEHEE


I OBTAINED
THE SPECIAL
RIGHT
TO KILL!!!

.....

THAT IS A PROBLEM,

BUT THE REAL PROBLEM IS WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT!

AND WHAT ABOUT HIM?

WHAT, DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM THAT HE JUST KILLED THE OLD HAG WITHOUT FEEDING ON HER?

SFX: BUON - JEEP SPEEDING NOISILY

HN?

MOUNTAIN HIDEOUT

SFX: KYAA - SCREAM

MIND-BLOW-ING!!!

CAN I HAVE THIS CAR?!

SFX: GAGON - JEEP JUMPING

WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT?!

WHA...

SFX: HIRA - WAVING DISMISSIVELY

SCARED?

I WILL GIVE IT TO YOU AS A PRESENT.

YOUR DRIVING STYLE CLEARLY LACKS REFINEMENT, BY THE WAY.

SFX: GAUN - JEEP JUMPING

I ONLY TEACH MEN I LIKE.

CONSIDER IT AN HONOR.

FROM NOW ON I WILL BE THE ONE TO TEACH YOU THE PROPER WAY OF HUNTING.

LOOKS LIKE I'LL GET TIRED OF THIS MAN VERY FAST

MAYBE.

OH, REALLY!

GEEZ, FELL HEAD OVER HEELS FOR ME, HUH?

SIGN: OOKAWA SAKE SHOP

SFX: MOAAN - WRAPPED IN SUPERNATURAL CLOUDS

RATHER SCARY THING, DON'T YOU THINK?

UM...

NO.

WHAT'S THIS?

SFX: BEEP

SFX: SCRY

WHA...

AND NOW YOU CANNOT ENTER, UNLESS YOU'RE INVITED.

ONCE YOU HAVE DIED, YOU CEASED TO BELONG TO THIS HOUSE.

WELL THEN,

FIRST, TELL ME WHO YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTACK?

NONE OF US CAN, NOT EVEN OUR FEARLESS TATSUMI NOT EVEN SUNAKO.

INSTEAD IT MAKES YOU COWER IN FEAR INSTINCTIVELY.

MY OLD HAG!

SFX: TO - UNEASY

MY OLD MAN...

DON'T WANNA ATTACK MY OLD MAN JUST YET. I'M GONNA SAVE HIM FOR THE LAST TO PAY HIM IN FULL.

OH?

HER RATHER THAN YOUR FATHER?

SFX: KON - SOFT RAPPING

LISTEN, THEN

FIRST, YOU NEED TO RAP ON THE WINDOW

SFX KON - SOFT RAPPING

!!

SFX KON - RAPPING

IF YOU DO, THEN YOUR AVERAGE HUMAN WILL...

NEVER MIND WHATEVER SHE SAYS AND JUST KEEP RAPPING.

SFX GABA - SITTING UP

WHO IS IT?

WHO'S THERE?

SFX: SHA - PULLING CURTAINS

SFX: GOKU - SWALLOWING

SFX: KYORO - LOOKING AROUND

SFX: KARA - WINDOW CLATTERING

IS THERE SOMEONE THERE?

SFX: KARA - WINDOW CLATTERING

DON'T YOU KNOW HOW FRIGHTENING MY TOMIO CAN BE?!

OR I'LL TELL TOMIO ON YOU!

IF IT'S A PRANK, THEN TAKE IT ELSEWHERE!

SFX: GASH - GOLBBING

THEN COME BEHIND HER, HOLD HER CHIN STILL AND AIM FOR THE NECK!

SFX: ZURU - DRAGGING OUT

WHEN SHE LOOKS OUT, DRAG HER OUT OF THE WINDOW COMPLETELY, BUT REMEMBER TO SHUT HER MOUTH SO SHE WON'T SCREAM.

SFX: BOTO - FALLING DOWN

OOPS, 'S BAD!

TO—

TO—

Hii...

TOMIOO!!!

TOMIOO!!!

SFX: GASHI - CRASHING THE WINDPIPE

TOMI...

DON'T YOU DARE TO CALL MY--

--OLD MAN!!!

SFX: GOGYAA - DEATH SCREAM

STOP IT, NOW!!!

SFX: HA - COMING BACK TO HIS SENSES

SFX: DOSA - BODY HITTING THE GROUND

A-AGAIN...

I KILLED AGAIN...

---THAT WHEN A HUMAN DIES BECAUSE THEIR BLOOD WAS SUCKED BY US, THEIR DEATH IS REGISTERED AS DEATH FROM AN ILLNESS, BUT IF A HUMAN DIES BECAUSE OF A BROKEN NECK, THEIR DEATH CLASSIFIES AS MURDER!

DO YOU KNOW---

YOU WERE THERE WITH HIM, WHAT WERE YOU DOING, PRAY TELL?!

IT ONLY MEANS OOKAWA'S GRANDMOTHER NOW CLASSIFIES AS A MISSING PERSON'S CASE INSTEAD!

SFX: PUN - FUMING

I KNOW THAT.

CAUSING A VIOLENT DEATH PROMISES NOTHING BUT TROUBLE, THAT'S WHY WE TRANSPORTED THE BODY IN MY CAR.

SFX: DOKI - SUDDENLY NERVOUS

URGH...

AND WHY ARE YOU ACTING ALL HAUGHTY,

WHEN THERE'S BEEN NOTHING BUT ERRORS ON YOUR PART, MM?

JUST A WHILE AGO, THE SON OF THE BOOK STORE OWNER DIED, DIDN'T HE?

AND THE ONE RESPONSIBLE IS...

...YUZUKI, A FORMER LIBRARIAN!

IT'S SAID HE ATTACKED THE KID FROM THE BOOK STORE OWNER FAMILY,

EVEN THOUGH IT'S FORBIDDEN, BECAUSE WHEN A CHILD DIES, IT MAKES THEIR PARENTS SO MUCH MORE AGGRESSIVE

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES HE GOT REBUKED, HE STILL WANTED TO ATTACK LITTLE BOYS EXCLUSIVELY.

HE'S ABOUT TO GET PUNISHED!

THIS MAN IS PUNISHED FOR HIS CRIME OF ATTACKING LITTLE CHILDREN.

WHAT'S HE DONE?

SFX ZAWA - CROWD TALKING

YEAH, YOU SAID IT

WOW TALK ABOUT THE TRUE FACE OF OUR EVER-POPULAR-WITH-CHILDREN LIBRARIAN..

SFX NYA - SLOATING SMILE

AND I GOT ATTACKED SIMPLY BECAUSE I HAPPENED TO BE A WITNESS BY MISCHANCE

SO YUZUK CAME TO ATTACK MY NEPHEW HIROMI

SOMEHOW I AIN'T AMUSED

I AM SORRY, TATSUMI -SAN...

GYA

FU

GEFU

I'M LESS THAN PLEASED WITH YOU, YOSHIE -KUN.

I ENTRUSTED THIS PLACE TO YOU AND LOOK HOW IT TURNED OUT.

KYA !!!

SFX: OOFU - FLESH MELTING SLOWLY

SFX: OOFU - FLESH MELTING SLOWLY

IT IS...

I HEARD YUZUKI SURVIVED HIS PUNISHMENT JUST BARELY, IS IT RIGHT?

THAT INCIDENT WAS REPORTED TO ME.

SFX: KYU - CLICK

ANYWAY!

SO BOTH OF YOU, CHIZURU AND YOSHIE, PULL THE REIGNS OF CONTROL TIGHTER, WILL YOU.

I DO NOT WANT THE VILLAGERS TO REALIZE THE SITUATION JUST YET.

HAVING THEM SUSPECTING SOMETHING IS TOLERABLE, BUT IT'LL BE DANGEROUS TO US IF THEIR SUSPICIONS GET CONFIRMED.

IS THAT CLEAR?

SFX: BISHI - SALUTING

YESSIR!

YEES.

ALRIGHT THEN!

I HAVE ANOTHER MAN, I WANT TO FEED ON. IT'S TIME TO VISIT HIM!

SFX: BA - STANDING UP

THIS IS IT FOR TODAY, THEN. DISMISSED!

SFX: KOKO - SHOES CLICKING

I GOT TIRED OF HIM!

Geez...

OH, SO YOU DON'T WANT TO HAVE FUN WITH OOKAWA'S SON ANYMORE, HUH?

SFX: BURU - TREMBLING

HEY, DON'T YOU CRY ON ME, GEEZ.

SOB

I KNOW WE'RE ONLY POSING AS A MARRIED COUPLE, BUT STILL, WHEN CHIZURU ACTS LIKE THIS...

HM?

AM. DAY . 00AM
OZAKI C. INIC

THIS MORNING I WAS TOLD RITSU-CHAN DIED THIS WEEKEND.

AND HER FUNERAL SERVICE WAS HELD NOT BY THE SOTOBA TEMPLE, BUT BY AN UNDERTAKER.

PLEASE, GO AWAY...

I'LL THE VERY END SHE REFUSED TO LET ME EXAMINE HER!..

ON OCTOBER 29 NAMIE-SAN FROM THE OOKAWA SAKE SHOP MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED

ON OCTOBER 27 THE CHILD OF MASA-SAN, THE OWNER OF THE BOOKSTORE, PASSED AWAY AT THE UNIVERSITY CLINIC

ON OCTOBER 30 TANAKA SACHIKO-SAN FROM THE LOWER SOTOBA DIED

ON OCTOBER 28 TAE-SAN FROM THE DRIVE-IN CONVENIENCE STORE DIED

SFX: GUSHA - SQUEEZE

HOW MUCH LONGER DO I HAVE TO WAIT?!

WHEN WILL THE TIME COME?!

SFX GYUMU - STUBBING OUT A CIGARETTE

トクトク

コポコポ

SFX. TOUKU - POURING

CHEEERS!

SO IT'S MY TURN AT LAST?

SFX: KUU - GULP

WE'LL SEE.

FU FU.

SFX KOTON - SOFT CLINK

IF I SEE YOU HAVE QUALITY THAT I REQUIRE...

THEN IT WLL BE YOUR TURN.

I HAVE A TASTE FOR GOOD MEN.

WHAT I CARE ABOUT IS NOT THINGS LIKE FACE OR BODY OR SOUL THOUGH.

I ONLY DRINK BLOOD OF THOSE MEN, WHO HAS HIGH QUALITY TO THEM.

SFX: KACHI - PUSHING THE SWITCH

WH-

WHAT?!

SFX: KASHI - LIGHT TURNS ON

CRISSCROSSED PENTAGRAM DESIGNS ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR ABILITY TO EXORCISE DEMONS

SO I DECIDED TO PROJECT ONE VIA A PROJECTOR

THIS PATTERN IS NOT TO YOUR LIKING, ISN'T IT?

KYAA !!!

SFX. BATA - LIMBS FLAILING

SFX. ZA - CRAWLING AWAY

YOU'RE TALKING TO ME IN THAT HIGH AND MIGHTY MANNER LIKE I'M INFERIOR TO YOU.

WOULD YOU STOP BELITTLING ME?

YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT HERE IT'S YOU THE ONE INFERIOR.

SFX. SHU - SCALPEL APPEARING

AND THE ONE DOING THE APPRAISING WILL BE ME!

SFX. BASHI - HIT

SFX. KAA - HISSING

HOW DARE YOU INSULT ME LIKE THIS!!!

I WILL KILL YOU PERSONALLY, YOU CAN BET ON IT!

I WILL MAKE YOU PAY FOR THIS, MARK MY WORDS!

SFX: TA - RUNNING AWAY

SFX: SHU - TAKING OUT A CIGARETTE

WELL...

LOOKS LIKE THE TIME HAS FINALLY COME.

Yuuki Natsuno, part 14: Mourning and Death

Original Story by: Ono Fuyumi

Art by: Fujisaki Ryuu

Sunako said that the relationship between Shiki and humans is peculiar. Indeed, I'm of the same opinion.

While both Shiki and humans clearly share the same form, the relationship between them is that of the predator and the prey. And I'm going to enjoy this peculiarity...

SFX: ZA - SWEEPING

I'M NOT A PRIEST, SO I DON'T GET TO RECITE PRAYERS, BUT I DO ALL THE CHORES AND VARIOUS ODD JOBS AROUND HERE

I'M TADOKORO MITSUO AND I'VE BEEN COMING TO THIS TEMPLE SINCE I WAS 15

I'M SECRETLY PROUD OF THE FACT THAT I'VE BEEN SHOWING UP HERE FIRST EVERY MORNING WITHOUT SKIPPING FOR MORE THAN 35 YEARS IN A ROW

THE MOTHER, A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN MIWAKO-SAN FROM A NEIGHBORING VILLAGE, MARRIED THE PRIEST

I'VE KNOWN THIS FAMILY SINCE BEFORE THE YOUNG PRIEST WAS BORN

THAT'S WHY, WHEN THE YOUNG PRIEST WAS FINALLY BORN, HE WAS A TRUE TREASURE TO HER

THE TEMPLE NEEDED A HEIR.

THIS WAS WHAT THE WHOLE VILLAGE WISHED FOR, AND MIWAKO-SAN WAS UNDER CONSTANT PRESSURE TO MEET THESE DEMANDS.

BUT SHE SEEMED UNABLE TO HAVE CHILDREN AND WAS TERRIBLY ASHAMED OF IT.

ヒソ ヒソ

SFX HISO - WHISPERING

BUT STILL THE YOUNG PRIEST SUCCEEDED THE TEMPLE SAFELY ONCE HE GREW UP

A LOT HAPPENED SINCE THEN

LATELY, HOWEVER...

...OUR NUMBERS ARE DWINDLING.

AND I KNOW THE CAUSE

SFX: GASA - RUSTLING

YESTERDAY'S EVENING I ENCOUNTERED IT ON THE ROAD WHEN RETURNING HOME

TSURUMI-KUN DIED, AND IKEBE-KUN STOPPED COMING RECENTLY.

THE CHIEF PRIEST SIMPLY DISAPPEARED

I RAN INTO TSURUMI-KUN WHO DIED SOME TIME AGO

fuh

SFX: GA - CLOSING IN SUDDENLY

HII...

SFX: GA - GRABBING

MITSUO -SAN,

YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TELL ANYONE ABOUT SEEING ME.

TSURUMI-KUN...

YOU CAN'T BE...

IF YOU DO, I'LL HAVE TO KILL YOU.

WE CAN'T ENTER TEMPLES AND SHRINES ANYMORE.

TAKE YOUR MOTHER AND GO LIVE IN THE TEMPLE.

SFX: SHA - LEAVING FAST

AFTER HE SAID THAT, TSURUMI-KUN LEFT WITH HIS SHOULDERS SAGGED

YOU GOTTA STAY THERE.

I'M REALLY SORRY, MIWA-CHAN.

WE HAVE A LOT OF SPARE ROOMS, AND IT IS AN HONOR TO HAVE YOU HERE.

MITSUO JUST SUDDENLY HAD THIS IDEA THAT WE SHOULD LIVE IN THE TEMPLE FOR A WHILE.

ESPECIALLY SINCE WE, TOO, HAVE BEEN FEELING A LITTLE BIT DEPRESSED LATELY FOR SOME REASON.

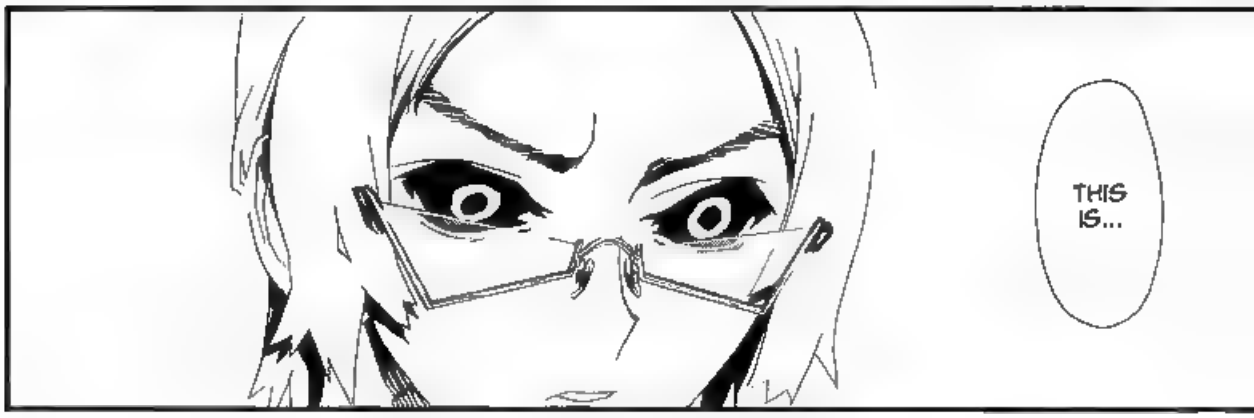
THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING.

...I WILL PROTECT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

MIWAKO-SAN...

Yuuki Natsuno, part 14: Mouring and Death

NOVEMBER 3 THURSDAY
BUTSUMETSU BEFORE NOON
THE ROOM OF THE CHIEF PRIEST, SHINMEI


THIS IS...

DEAR SIR, I SINCERELY BEG YOUR PARDON FOR WRITING YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN, SEEING AS I HAD NO PLEASURE TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH YOU IN PERSON.
I HAVE ALREADY SENT A LETTER OF INVITATION ONCE TO YOUR ADDRESS WITH THE SAME INTENTION TO INVITE YOU
I, HOWEVER, DO NOT INVITE YOU TO MY WIFE'S ROOM
PLEASE, REFRAIN FROM STEPPING INTO MY SON'S ROOM AS WELL.
THE LIVING ROOM IS ALSO OFF LIMITS.
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO COME TO MY ROOM SPECIFICALLY
I LOST ANY INTEREST IN LIFE.
PLEASE, COME ANY TIME YOU FIND SUITABLE.
I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT

SO THE LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE KIRISHIKIS I TOOK OUT THAT TIME WAS ALSO LIKE THIS?

To Kirishiki Seishirou-sama

SFX: PIRA - TAKING OUT

BUT WHY?

THIS IS AN INVITATION...

WHY IS FATHER'S LAPTOP LEFT OPEN AND TURNED ON, I WONDER.

WHY IS THERE A LETTER LIKE THIS IN THERE

..HE DEFINITELY WAS MAKING SURE IF IT WAS AN ORDINARY CASE OF ILLNESS OR THE UNDEAD'S DOING

PROBABLY FATHER GUESSED WHAT THE KIRISHIKIS' TRUE NATURE WAS.

THAT TIME WHEN HE WENT TO VISIT TOKUJIROU-SAN...

IN THIS LETTER IT'S OPENLY STATED THAT COMING INTO ANY OTHER ROOM EXCEPT FOR HIS OWN IS FORBIDDEN

THIS IS AN INVITATION TO SPECIFICALLY HIS ROOM ONLY

IT'S THE SAME AS A SUICIDE.

EXCUSE ME.

EXCUSE ME...

SFX: HO - RELIEVED

MY NAME IS TANAKA KAORI.

YES, I AM, AND I AM GRATEFUL THAT YOU REMEMBERED ME.

...

YOU'RE A FRIEND OF SHIMIZU MEGUMI'S, IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY...

SFX: SU - SITTING DOWN

.....

ARE YOU MOURNING SOMEONE?

SFX: GAJI - GNAWING

COULD YOU PLEASE GIVE ME KAIMYOU?

SFX: KARA - CLATTERING

WHEN I ASKED PEOPLE OUTSIDE, THEY SAID I SHOULD GO HERE.

I CAME TO YOU BECAUSE I HAVE A REQUEST.

MY FATHER TOO.

MY MOTHER PASSED AWAY.

AND MY YOUNGER BROTHER WASN'T HOME FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

WILL YOU REFUSE TO GIVE ME KAIMYOU, IF I AM REQUESTING IT FOR MYSELF?

BECAUSE IT IS MY TURN NEXT,

AND I AM READY TO DIE ANYTIME.

I WANT KAIMYOU FOR MYSELF.

BUT IT IS NOT ABOUT KAIMYOU FOR THEM.

BY MEGUMI-CHAN'S HAND?!

THIS GIRL KNOWS THEN?!

SFX: BA - KNEELING

THEN PLEASE, GIVE ME KAIMYOU!

FOR SOME REASON I'M NOT AWARE OF I MADE MEGUMI-CHAN VERY ANGRY, THAT'S WHY MY TURN TO DIE BY HER HAND COMES NEXT FOR SURE!

NO...

THERE ARE THOSE WHO RECEIVED THEIR KAIMYOU WHILE STILL BEING ALIVE.

I MADE PREPARATIONS FOR IT TO BECOME MY GRAVE.

I DUG A HOLE SUITABLE FOR A GRAVE.

IT IS NOT PERFECT THOUGH.

SFX: ZAKU - DIGGING

I NEED TO WRITE MY KAIMYOU ON IT FOR PREPARATIONS TO BE COMPLETE.

I DID NOT KNOW WHAT MY KAIMYOU WOULD BE,

THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE...

YES...

BOTH YOU AND ME MIGHT NOT HAVE MUCH LONGER TO LIVE.

IT IS NOT FOR PEOPLE TO KNOW WHEN THEY ARE GOING TO DIE.

IT'S NOT MY PLACE TO SAY SUCH WORDS...

BUT THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS CHEAP LIVES REGARDLESS OF WHETHER YOU CHOOSE TO WELCOME DEATH OR RUN AWAY FROM IT.

I, THE ONE WHO'VE FORSAKEN THIS VILLAGE, AM NOT THE ONE TO TALK...

SAME DAY
YUUKI'S HOUSE

SFX: OOSU - STOMP

SFX: SHIN - SILENCE

SFX: BAN - THROWING THE DOOR OPEN

SFX: PI-PON - DOORBELL

SFX: KIII - SCREAMING HYSTERICALLY

SFX: OOSU - POUNCE

I DID IT, NATSUNO!

I OFFED AN UNDEAD!!!

HYAHAHA!

SEE, NATSUNO?!!

HOW WAS THAT?! YOU CAN RELY ON YOUR FATHER!!!

SFX: ZU - PULLING THE KNIFE OUT

DEAR FATHER,

MAY I COME IN?

YES, PLEASE.

SO,

WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?

HIS THOUGHT-TO-BE-DEAD SON CAME BACK TO LIFE, AFTER ALL.

ALL THIS SURE CHANGED YOUR FATHER.

CAN'T BE HELPED, I GUESS.

SFX: GU - CHURNING

SFX: KUPI - SIPPING

I KNOW.

YOU'RE A WEREWOLF...

OOH, JUST LIKE I THOUGHT, YOU'RE ONE REALLY CLEVER BOY.

WHERE IS IT THAT WE HAVE AN INFORMATION LEAK, HMM...? WE GOTTA BE MORE CAREFULL.

YOU KNOW THAT?

WEREWOLVES ARE A SUB-SPECIES OF SHIKI.

TO MY KNOWLEDGE, EVEN COUNTING ME, YOSHIE AND YOU, IN THE WHOLE JAPAN THERE'RE ONLY SOME 4-5 PEOPLE LIKE THAT.

WELL, SUNAKO GOT INFECTED WITH LYCANTROPY FROM A FOREIGN WEREWOLF IN THE BEGINNING.

THEY DEFINITELY EXIST OVERSEAS, TOO.

IN THE WHOLE JAPAN?

AND IT WAS SUNAKO WHO GAVE US THE NAME 'WEREWOLVES'.

YOU KNOW, IN THE MOVIES A VAMPIRE OFTEN HAS A FAMILIAR - A WEREWOLF SERVANT, RIGHT?

A SERVANT, HUH?

WEREWOLVES BREATHE, HAVE A PULSE, CAN WALK UNDER THE SUNLIGHT, AND CAN EXIST ON ORDINARY HUMAN FOOD.

THEIR PHYSICAL ABILITIES ARE HIGHTENED AND ALL THEIR 5 SENSES ARE MANY TIMES SHARPER THAN THOSE OF HUMANS.

AND, UNLIKE SHIKI, THEY **NEVER DIED.**

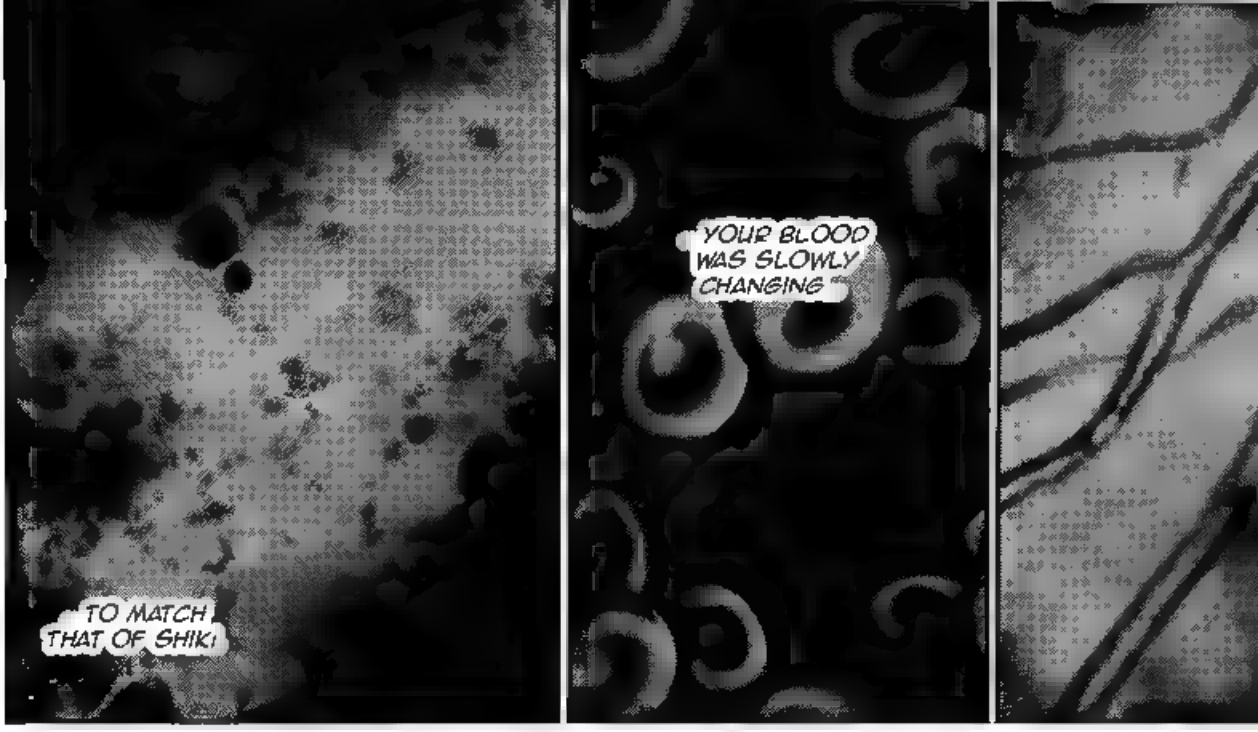
SFX: GUSHA - SQUISHING THE CUP

SFX: POTA - DRIP-DROP

IN THE PERIOD WHEN YOUR BODY TEMPERATURE WAS DROPPING AND YOU COULDN'T TELL WHETHER YOU WERE STIL BREATHING OR NOT, OR WHETHER YOUR HEART WAS STILL BEATING OR STOPPED.

YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED THIS AS WELL,

WHEN YOU WERE ON THE BRINK OF DEATH.


YOUR BLOOD WAS SLOWLY CHANGING
TO MATCH THAT OF SHIKI

WE NEVER DIED, WE JUST CHANGED!
INTO CREATURES WHOSE PURPOSE IS KILLING HUMANS!

SO THEY GOT SENT BACK WITH AN EMPTY COFFIN.

AT THAT TIME YOUR FATHER, MISTAKING YOU FOR DEAD, CALLED THE CITY FUNERAL HOME.
BUT WHEN UNDERTAKERS ARRIVED, YOU HAD ALREADY COME TO, BECOMING SHIKI.
He's alive!
What?

SFX: GU - GURGLING

ABOUT TANAKA AKIRA-KUN.

BY THE WAY,

WHAT A NICE SMELL!

MMM...

YOUR FATHER'S SPECIAL SOUP, I TAKE IT?

SFX: KUN KUN - SNIFF-SNIFF

AND WHAT HAPPENED TO MAEDA IWAO?

SO WHERE'S AKIRA-KUN NOW?

IT WAS YOUR DOING, WASN'T IT?

DUNNO.

SFX ZUSHH - SMASHING THE TABLE

SFX: GA - GRABBING

SFX: GATA - TWITCHING

YOU CAN'T ACCESS WEREWOLVES' TRUE POWER LIKE THAT.

INSTEAD YOU KEEP LIVING ON YOUR OLD MAN'S STINKING SOUP.

YOU DIDN'T SUCK BLOOD.

LIKE I SUSPECTED.

I CAN FINISH YOU OFF RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW, YOU KNOW.

COME TO OUR SIDE!

THEN I'LL LET YOU LIVE!

SFX DOSA - THUD

YOU'RE LUCKY SUNAKO SAYS SHE REALLY WANTS YOU TO BECOME OUR COMRADE AND DOESN'T WANT TO KILL YOU.

I CAN'T MAKE A CHOICE SO SUDDENLY.

I CAN'T SORT OUT MY THOUGHTS AT THE MOMENT, NO MATTER WHAT YOU MAY DO TO ME.

TILL TOMORROW MORNING THEN.

ALRIGHT, I CAN WAIT TILL TOMORROW.

.....

OH, LEAVING ALREADY?

SFX: DOSU - STOMPING

NATSUNO,

WHAT'S WRONG?

NOTHING,

ABSOLUTELY NOTHING, FATHER.

SAME DAY
AFTER NIGHTFALL

--AM I?

WHERE--

IT'S THE DEAD OF NIGHT BUT IT SEEMS SO PALE AND NOT AT ALL DARK

はっ

BUT WHY IS IT THAT ITS CRISSCROSSED STRUCTURE IS SCARING ME?

I'M BEING POSITIVELY WIERD

I'D BETTER HURRY BACK HOME

SFX: ZA – DRIVING THE SHOVEL INTO THE GROUND

PHEW!

FINALLY FINISHED BURYING HER!

HM...

PITY SHE DIDN'T COME BACK TO LIFE...

MARUYASU'S WIFE... WHAT WAS HER NAME AGAIN... JUNKO, I THINK?

WHO WAS THIS WOMAN ANYWAY?

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE LEFT IN CHARGE OF 'THE UNDEAD'S HUTS' THOUGH, YASUYUKI.

NOT EASY, THAT'S FOR SURE

SO YOUR HELP IS MUCH APPRECIATED, TAKATOSHI.

IT MUST BE REALLY HARD, SEEING AS THERE ARE 5 SUCH HUTS IN DIFFERENT PLACES.

Well, help yourself to the chocolate pie if you will!

WELL, YEAH.

I GOTTA LAY OUT THE DEAD BODIES THAT HAYAMI SENDS FROM HIS FUNERAL PARLOR IN ROWS IN THESE HUTS.

IF A FEW DAYS LATER THEY COME BACK TO LIFE I SEND THEM TO THE HIDEOUT IN THE MOUNTAINS, AND IF THEY START ROTTING INSTEAD, THEN I GOTTA BURY THEM.

.....

HEY, TAKA-TOSHI...

EARLIER, WHEN YOU SAID YOU'D GO CLOSE THE DOOR, DID YOU TAKE THE KEY WITH YOU TO LOCK IT?

THE KEY?

NOPE, I JUST CLOSED THE DOOR IS ALL...

YOU MORON!!!!

WHAT GOOD IS IT TO JUST CLOSE IT WITHOUT LOCKING?!!

YEAH, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, YOU'RE RIGHT.

GO SEARCH FOR THAT OLD WOMAN, NOW!!!!

SFX: HA - SIGH

SFX DON DON - KNOCKING

SFX DON DON - KNOCKING

OH, I FELL ASLEEP. BUT WHO COULD IT BE THAT LATE?

MAYBE MOTOKO?

SFX FURA - WALKING UNSTEADILY

SFX: SHA - DRAWING THE BLINDS OPEN

TODAY'S THE EVE OF THE FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER, 4

IT'S LIKE PEOPLE THINK THIS FESTIVAL WILL CLEANSE ALL THE EVIL RESIDING IN THEIR VILLAGE

THE VILLAGERS ARE SO HOPEFUL FOR THIS SHIMOTSUKI KAGURA LIKE THEY'VE NEVER BEEN FOR ANY OTHER I CAN REMEMBER

AND SO, THIS SMALL VILLAGE'S STORY IS ABOUT TO—

HE'S NOT HERE

THIS IS YOUR ANSWER.

YUUKI NATSUNO.

I GET IT,

COMING I'M COMING! WHO COULD IT BE I WONDER ?

--UNFOLD AT BREAKNECK SPEED, LIKE A PEBBLE ROLLING DOWN A SLOPE, TILL IT -REACHES--

JUST A SECOND PLEASE!

YOU ! FROM THE TEMPLE !

I'D LIKE TO TALK TO SUNAKO-SAN ABOUT IT.

I BELIEVE, MY FATHER IS IN THIS MANSION SOMEWHERE.

EXCUSE ME.

.....

PLEASE, COME IN.

SFX: BATAN – DOOR SLAMMING SHUT

--ITS ULTIMATE CONCLUSION.

SFX: GATA - SHAKING

SFX: GATA - SHAKING

MEGUMI -CHAN IS COM- ING...

SUNSET. THE TANAKA'S HOUSE

SFX: GATA - SHAKING

DAD... PROTECT ME...

PLEASE, AKIRA... PROTECT ME...

I DID NOT SEE HIM EITHER...

I CANNOT FIND SEISHIN ANYWHERE!

9:00PM THE TEMPLE

MIWAKO -SAN

I WILL PROTECT THE TEMPLE

IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO HIM, WHAT WOULD I DO...?

MITSUO -SAN!

...WHEN I WAS 15.

I HAVE DECIDED SO WAY BACK...

!!

11:00PM OZAKI CLINIC

SFX: PAN - GUNSHOT

WHAT'S THAT SOUND?!

SFX: GACHA - DOOR OPENS

DON'T MOVE.

!!!

SFX: BACHI - CRACKS

SFX: CHA - LEVELLING THE RIFLE

THE PROJECTOR, THAT PROJECTS THE CRISSCROSSED PATTERN, HAS BEEN DESTROYED!

TIME ACCELERATES.

THERE IS STILL A DAY LEFT
BEFORE THE 'FESTIVAL'...

NOTES

Lucky and Unlucky Days

In Japan there is so-called Rokuyou (六曜), a 6-day cycle of lucky and unlucky days based on the lunar calendar, which is used in this manga to signify, imply or emphasize the influence of luck on events depicted. Refer to the following to get a clearer idea of its significance:

Sakigachi (先勝) - good luck in the morning, bad luck in the afternoon.
Tomobiki (友引) - good luck all day, except at noon,
Sakimake (先負) - bad luck in the morning, good luck in the afternoon,
Butsumetsu (仏滅) - unlucky all day, as it is the day Buddha died,
Taian (大安) - 'The day of great peace', the finest day for ceremonies,
Shakku (赤口) - bad luck all day, except at noon,

Kagura

Kagura (神楽) - a specific type of Shinto theatrical dance accompanied by appropriate music. Kagura is performed to offer thanks to the gods for a bountiful harvest and also serves as a purification ritual. Thus, typically takes place after the summer and autumn harvest are complete, i.e. in the period between November and February. Shimotsuki Kagura = November Kagura.

Kaimyou

Kaimyou (戒名) - a posthumous Buddhist honorary name, that is used instead of one's personal name after a person's death. Usually based on one's personal virtues and deeds, demonstrated in life. Can be either a praise or a deprecation (not often).

Okiagari

Okiagari (起き上がり) - the word the manga uses (and also FUNimation translation for the anime leaves it as it is) for referring to the vampire-like creatures the villagers become. It is a noun derivied from the verb 'okiagaru' (起き上がる), lit. meaning 'to rise, to get up', hence the noun lit. means 'those who have risen'. For purposes of clearer understanding I use various synonyms (such as 'the living dead', 'the undead', 'to rise from the dead', etc.) instead of leaving this word and its derivatives as they are.

Chapter names

In Japanese the names of chapters sound like numerals. For example, if we simplify it, the name of this chapter 悼と死 (tou to shi), while meaning lit. 'mourning and death', sounds like a way to describe the numeral '14' (tou = 10, to = and, shi = 4). This is the case with every chapter of this manga (and holds true for the anime as well).

Ozaki Toshio, part 10: Mourning

Original Story by: Ono Fuyumi

Art by: Fujisaki Ryuu

I want to see it with my own eyes.
To see what kind of face the villagers will make
when they finally get that
the reality isn't going to change just because
they refuse to see it for what it is.

They believe demons are monsters
that exist only in dreams.
They don't want to consider other possibilities.
And I want to see
if they will be able to keep rejecting the reality
as they themselves are being captured
and eaten by said monsters...

TOSHIO'S DEFEAT...

FREEZE!

YOUNG DOCTOR OZAKI!

LET'S SEE YOU RAISE YOUR HANDS, SHALL WE,

I CAN RESIST WHEN I'M DEALING WITH AN UNDEAD...

BUT AGAINST A HUMAN WITH A GUN IT JUST WON'T WORK.

SFX. SU - RAISING HIS HANDS

OH?

AREN'T WE OBEDIENT TODAY, HM?

SFX. TO - FOOTSTEPS

YOU TRULLY ARE AN UNPALATABLE MAN.

SO YOU KNOW THAT SEISHIROU IS HUMAN.

BUT I'LL DEVOUR YOU ANYWAY.

SFX: GACHA - PICKING UP THE RECEIVER

SFX: GA - DARTING

EVEN IF YOU CALL THE POLICE, THE FIRST TO ARRIVE HERE WILL BE SASAKI ANYWAY.

FUFUFU, AND WHO YOU'RE TRYING TO CALL, PRAY TELL?

SFX: PURURU - DIAL TONE

SFX: PI PI PI - PRESSING THE BUTTONS

SFX: GACHA - PICKING UP THE RECEIVER

AH, TOSHIO -KUN!

MUROI LISTENING.

!

I CAN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE.

HE'S...

IS SEISHIN AROUND?

SFX: KUSU - SNICKERING

MUROI-SAN WENT TO PAY SUNAKO A VISIT OF HIS OWN VOLITION.

HE WASN'T ATTACK-ED.

HAVE YOU CAPTURED HIM?

SFX: KUSU - SNICKERING

SFX: BAN - THROWING THE RECEIVER WITH FORCE

HE MUST HAVE FULLY REALIZED WHAT WAS BOUND TO HAPPEN IF HE DID THAT.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN THAT HE WENT TO VISIT SHIKI OF HIS OWN FREE WILL?

IT CAN ONLY MEAN THAT - SEISHIN SURRENDERED HIMSELF TO SHIKI!

WHILE MUROI-SAN CHOSE NOT TO.

YOU CHOSE TO FIGHT AGAINST SHIKI,

SHOCK, ISN'T IT?

SOME-THING LIKE THAT.

SFX: DOSA - SITTING DOWN HEAVILY

ABSURD.

WON'T FORGIVE HIM?

IT'S MUCH BETTER THAN NOT MAKING ANY CHOICE AT ALL LIKE MOST VILLAGERS DO RIGHT NOW.

WHILE SUCH A CHOICE IS STUPID, HE'S MADE IT BECAUSE SEISHIN IS WHO HE IS.

EACH OF THEM THINKS THAT SOONER OR LATER SOMEONE ELSE IS BOUND TO DO SOMETHING...

THE VILLAGERS... THEY KNOW, YOU SEE...

ABOUT THE UNDEAD AND THEIR DOINGS, THAT IS...

...YET THEY JUST PRETEND NOT TO NOTICE.

I'M SICK AND TIRED OF THAT ATTITUDE.

DO WHAT-EVER YOU WANT.

SO MAY I?

SFX: SU - MOVING AWAY

YOU WILL DESTROY ALL THE DATA YOU HAVE ON US.

AND YOU WILL CORRECT ALL THE RECORDS IN MEDICAL CARDS OF YOUR PATIENTS

SO THAT THEY STATE NO ONE DIED IN THIS VILLAGE.

AND AFTER YOU'RE FINISHED, YOU WILL SURRENDER YOURSELF TO US.

IS THIS CLEAR?

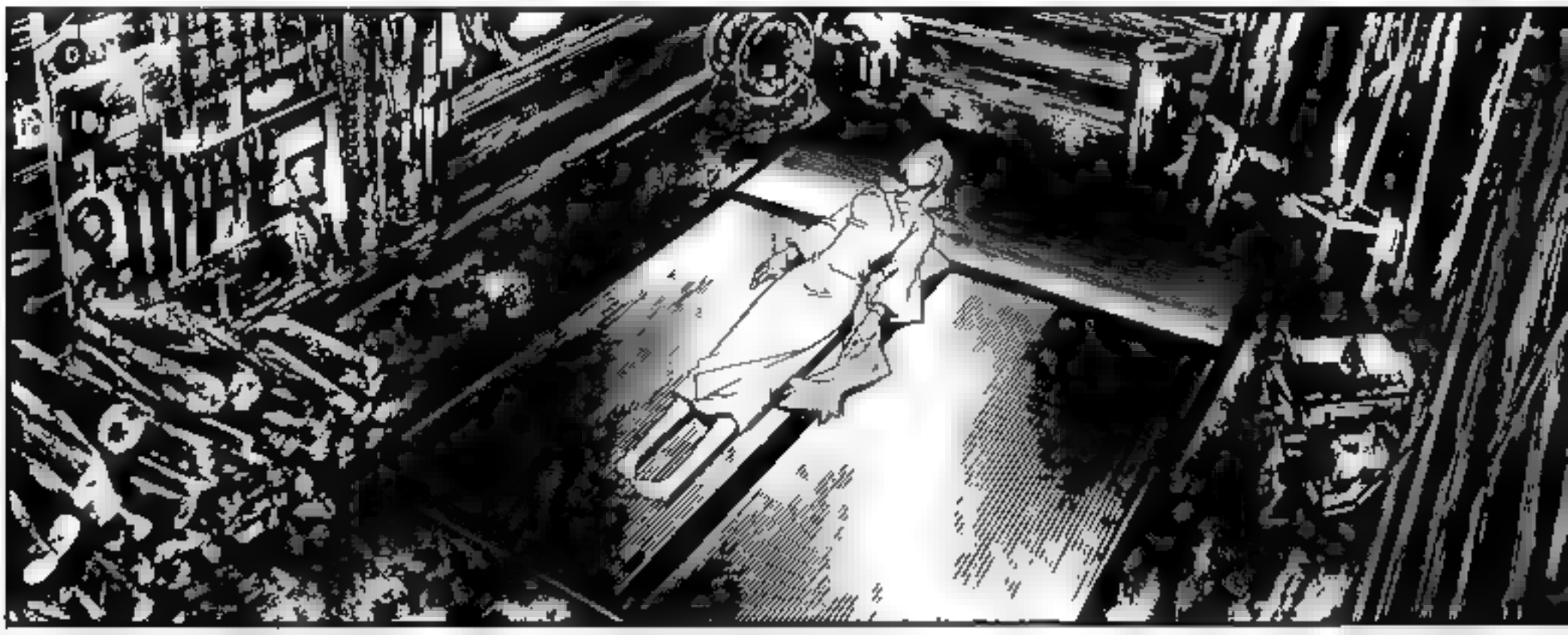
YEAH...

.....

CLEAR...

Ozaki Toshio, part 10: Mourning

NOVEMBER 5 SATURDAY SHANK
GRAY OF MORNING
WESTERN MOUNTAINS
OUTSIDE SOTOBA



SFX: SU - TOUCHING

JUST WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF...

SFX: GABA - BOLTING UPRIGHT

THERE IS NO PULSE...

SFX: KACHA - DOOR OPENING

RITSU-CHAN...

GOOD MORNING, SUNSHINE!!!

I HEARD A NOISE AND THOUGHT YOU PROBABLY AWAKENED!

SFX HYU - WHIZZING

TOORU-KUN?!!

I CAN'T USE MY VOICE!!

AH, IT'S BECAUSE I'M NOT BREATHING...

WOW!

WE DIDN'T EVEN EXPLAIN ANYTHING, BUT YOU ALREADY KNOW?

Y-

YOU TWO

HAVE COME BACK TO LIFE TOO?

SFX: HYU - WHIZZING

THEN I REALLY...!

SFX: ZOKU - SHIVER

SFX: ZEHA - WHEEZING AND GASPING

I SELF-TREATED MYSELF AT HOME. I WAS SUFFOCATING BADLY.

I TRIED TO CALL FOR MY MOTHER, BUT SHE WASN'T AROUND.

...I MOSTLY REMEMBER WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO ME...

SFX: ZEHA - WHEEZING AND GASPING

...AND LOST CONSCIOUS-NESS.

SFX DOSA - THUD

SFX KURA - DIZZY

I DECIDED TO GO FIND HER...

PROBABLY.

THAT WAS WHEN I DIED, RIGHT?

ME?!

TONIGHT THREE MORE PEOPLE MAY AWAKEN!

BUT SINCE YOU KNOW THAT YOU ROSE FROM THE DEAD, IT'LL SPEED THINGS UP.

TOORU-KUN! EXPLAIN TO HER EVERYTHING SHE NEEDS TO KNOW AND TAKE CARE OF HER FEEDING!

ME AND TATSUMI-SAN GOT OUR HANDS FULL AS IT IS, WE SIMPLY CAN'T BE EVERYWHERE!

SO I'LL LEAVE HER TO YOU!

SFX: BATAN - SLAMMING THE DOOR SHUT

SFX: SOWA - NERVOUS

I DON'T NEED THEM.

SINCE I'M DEAD, THIS FUNERAL KIMONO WILL DO.

UM, WELL... FIRST, CHANGE INTO THESE CLOTHES.

AND I DON'T WANT TO 'FEED'.

I DON'T WANT TO KILL ANYBODY.

I'LL WAIT OUTSIDE.

SFX: SU - OFFERING

THE HUNGER IS TOO AGONIZING TO BEAR.

EVERY-BODY...

...SAYS THAT AT FIRST...

BUT EVENTUALLY EVERYBODY SURRENDERS TO HUNGER AND ATTACKS PEOPLE.

.....

LAST TIME I SAW THEM, BOTH MOTHER AND MIDORI HAD THAT PECULIAR EXPRESSION ON THEIR FACES...

MY FAMILY MUST BE DEAD, TOO...

IN ANY CASE, I WILL NOT FEED ON ANYONE.

I DON'T WANT TO END UP HATING MYSELF.

SFX: GIRI - GRINDING THE TEETH

THIS PROBABLY IS WHAT 'FREEDOM OF CHOICE' MEANS.

SEVERAL HOURS LATER
THE OZAKIS' HOUSE

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SFX: POTA - DRIPPING

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SFX: POTA - DRIPPING

YOU MUST SURRENDER TO US

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"SURRENDER

YOU WILL DESTROY ALL THE DATA YOU HAVE ON US.

AND YOU WILL CORRECT ALL THE RECORDS IN MEDICAL CARDS OF YOUR PATIENTS SO THAT THEY STATE NO ONE DIED IN THIS VILLAGE

SFX: SUNYA - MENTAL IMAGE SHIFTING SUDDENLY

SURRENDER TO TU--

SURRENDER...

...FIGHT THEM.

--EM.

YOU MUST KEEP YOUR OWN FREE WILL.

YOU MUSTN'T SURRENDER, NO MATTER WHAT THEY SAY TO YOU.

SFX GORON - ROLLING OVER ENDLESSLY

AAA...

UWAAA!

AAA...

NOVEMBER 5
EARLY MORNING

SFX: PACHI - THE FIRE CRACKLING

SFX: PACHI - THE FIRE CRACKLING

SFX: BATA - STOPPING

WE JUST RECEIVED A CIRCULAR NOTICE FROM THE FIRE PREVENTION TO BE EXTRA CAREFUL WITH FIRE, REMEMBER?!

DON'T MAKE FIRE! THE AIR IS OVERLY DRY AS IT IS!

TOSHIO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

AREN'T THOSE THE MEDICAL RECORDS OF YOUR PATIENTS?!

YOU...

SPY MAN - PAPERS BURNING

NEVER-MIND THEM.

WHAT'S WRITTEN IN THEM IS WRONG ANYWAY.

SPY MAN - SCATTERING THE PAPERS

OH, THEY'RE HAVING A FESTIVAL, IT SEEMS.

SFX. PIRO PIRO, DON - FLUTE, DRUMS, MUSIC

BUT SINCE IT'S LINKED TO RELIGION, WE CAN'T REALLY GO...

THIS FLUTE MELODY CHEERS ME UP!

YOU DID A GREAT JOB, ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THAT YOU'RE SUFFERING FROM ANEMIA RIGHT NOW. ♡

PERFECT! ♡

SUNAKO IS VERY LENIENT TO THOSE WHO HELP US.

SUNAKO WILL BE HAPPY TOO, WHEN SHE SEES THIS.

*RELIGIOUS CELEBRATION IN NOVEMBER

AH, SHIMO-TSUKI KAGURA*.

SFX: MUSIC, VARIOUS SOUNDS OF MERRYMAKING

.....

FU FU,

IT'LL BE LIKE PLAYING HOUSE!

SO I COULD GO SHOPPING AND STOP TO CHAT WITH PEOPLE ON THE WAY!

I WISH ALL THE VILLAGERS TURNED INTO SHIKI ALREADY,

SO I COULD WALK FREELY IN THE VILLAGE!

SFX: HITA - TAPPING LIGHTLY

IS THIS WHAT YOU LOT DESIRE?

THINK EVERYTHING'S REALLY GONNA GO SO SMOOTHLY?

WELL, YES.

WE WANT A SAFE HEAD-QUARTERS.

A SAFE PLACE WHERE WE DON'T HAVE TO HIDE.

JUST A BIT LONGER - AND WE'LL HAVE IT HERE, SOON.

WELL, SUNAKO SAYS THAT THE LAST STAGE WILL BE THE HARDEST.

BUT I THINK THE FACT THAT THINGS HAVE COME THIS FAR COUNTS AS A COMPLETE SUCCESS ALREADY, YOU KNOW?

BESIDES, EVEN YOU, WHO WERE THE MAIN THREAT TO US, IS NO LONGER OUR ENEMY.

CHIZURU,

LET'S HAVE A DATE.

SFX: TARA - SWEAT DROP

BESIDES, YOU'RE REALLY INTERESTED IN THAT KAGURA ANYWAY, AREN'T YA.

EXCUSE ME?!

WELL, I'LL BE DEAD SOON, SO INDULGE ME HERE A LITTLE BEFORE THE END, WOULD YA.

SFX: WAI - EXCITEMENT

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NO! IT'S RELIGIOUS!

WELL, I AM, BUT...

THEN HOW ABOUT WE JUST WON'T GO NEAR THE MAIN PLACE OF CELEBRATION?

IT'S GONNA BE FUN!

GREAT! I'M GLAD YOU'LL GO!

NOW GIMME YOUR LEFT HAND FOR A SEC.

?

RIGHT!

IT'S BORING TO HIDE ALL THE TIME, AND AT THE TIME OF A FESTIVAL ESPECIALLY!

A SMALL POTATO...?

YOU WERE PEELING A SMALL POTATO, AND THE KNIFE SLIPPED.

YOUR HOME DOCTOR EBUCHI WAS AWAY AT THE TIME, SO YOU CAME TO ME.

SO THE STORY IS YOU CUT YOUR PALM AT THE BASE OF THE THUMB... AND I APPLIED TREATMENT.

IT'D LOOK SUSPICIOUS IF WE WERE TO WALK TOGETHER WITHOUT A REASON.

IT'S THE THING CALLED 'REALITY'.

IT'S... UNEXPECTED AND SO... TRIVIAL...

COME TO THINK OF IT, SMALL POTATOES REALLY ARE SLIPPERY.

I ACTUALLY DID CUT MYSELF PEELING ONE LONG TIME AGO.

FU FU FU FU FU.

OUCH!!!

DEAR, I CUT MY HAND! THERE'S SO MUCH BLOOD COMING OUT!

SFX. KI : CLASHING DAGGERS

DON'T TRY TO SNIFF OUT A GIRL'S AGE WITH PETTY TRICKS!

AND JUST HOW LONG AGO ARE WE TALKING, EXACTLY?

MY HUSBAND,

DIDN'T STAY BY MY SIDE LONG ENOUGH TO BLESS ME WITH HIS CHILD.

SO, WERE YOU MARRIED?

Ha ha ha ha

ANY CHILDREN?

AND THEN HE DIED IN A BATTLE SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH.

HEY, ARE YOU OK? YOU SURE YOU FEELING WELL ENOUGH TO GO?

I'M FINE.

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SFX KURA - DIZZY

STRANGE, ISN'T IT.

COULD IT BE THAT I WANT TO BE HUMAN AGAIN?

AND HERE I THOUGHT I'VE FINALLY FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT SUCH THINGS.

YES,

IT GIVES ME A SIMILAR FEELING.

IT REALLY MAKES YOU SO HAPPY?

YOU WERE STARING AT THAT BANDAGE AS IF IT WERE A RING WITH A PARTICULARILY BIG GEM STONE.

WELL, LET'S GO THEN, SHALL WE?

TO SHOW OFF YOUR BANDAGE?

FU FU FU FU.

SFX: KURU - SPINNING

YES!

I'M SO PROUD AND HAPPY!

DO I SEEM STRANGE TO YOU?

OH?

AH, I'M SO BUSY.

BECAUSE OF THE FESTIVAL, EVERYONE'S SAKE INTAKE GOES UP.

7:00P.M

SFX: SATAN - PUTTING DOWN

AH,

KAZUKO -SAN, GOOD EVENING.

GOOD EVENING!

UNBELIEVABLE! TO THINK THAT SOMEONE FROM THAT KANEMASA MANSION WOULD ACTUALLY COME TO A PLACE CROWDED WITH SO MANY PEOPLE!

THIS IS KIRISHIKI CHIZURU, THE LADY OF THE KANEMASA MANSION.

NICE TO MEET YOU!

AH...

EH?

SHE'S FROM THAT, KANEMASA MANSION!!!

AH... WELL, IT'S A FESTIVAL TODAY.

BUT USUALLY WE DON'T HAVE GUESTS FROM OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE VISITING OUR CELEBRATIONS...

THE LADY ASKED ME WHAT THESE MERRY SOUNDS WERE.

SFX: VARIOUS SOUNDS OF MERRYMAKING

!!

A WOUND?

I SEE.

SFX: JI – STARE

I GREW UP IN A CITY, YOU SEE.

I NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO VISIT A FESTIVAL OR ANY OTHER ANNUAL EVENT.

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SFX: HIRA – WAVING

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I'VE NEVER SEEN KAGURA THIS CLOSE BEFORE!

SFX: ZUI – RAISING THE HAND

SFX: KYA – EMBARRASSED

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OH, YOU NOTICED?!

A SMALL POTATO I WAS PEELING SLIPPED RIGHT OUT OF MY HANDS!

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I'M JUST SUCH A SCATTERBRAIN PERSON, BUT I CAN'T SEEM TO STOP HURTING MYSELF...

AND MY DAUGHTER EVEN SAID:

URGH! I DON'T EVEN KNOW ANYMORE WHO COOKS WHO: YOU COOK FOOD OR FOOD COOKS YOU!

SUCH AN AWFUL THING TO SAY, HONESTLY!

AH, SO SHE CUT HERSELF, WENT TO THE HOSPITAL AND HEARD ABOUT THE FESTIVAL WHILE THERE.

OH, I SEE...

I'VE HAD MY FAIR SHARE OF SUCH WOUNDS, TOO.

Ah ha ha ha ha

AH, WELL!

WITH SO MANY DEATHS IN THE VILLAGE I KIND OF SUSPECTED THE KANEMASA MANSION'S OCCUPANTS.

SHE'S KIND OF NORMAL.

Ah, by the way

I HEARD YOU HAVE SOME HEALTH PROBLEMS, IS IT REALLY OK FOR YOU TO BE TAKING SUCH A WALK?

WHAT AN ABSURD THOUGHT IT WAS!

THE STATE OF MY HEALTH SEEMS TO BE FINE HERE.

BUT IN SUMMER, WHEN THE WEATHER IS NICE, MY HEALTH IS USUALLY BEING PUT TO THE TEST.

SFX: ARIRI - REVELATION

NO-NO, I'M OK.

IT MUST BE HARD TO BEAR

IF HER SKIN IS EXPOSED TO THE SUNLIGHT, SHE'LL GET DERMATOSIS, AFFECTING HER CONDITION SIGNIFICANTLY.

BECAUSE SHE'S GOT HYPERSENSITIVITY TO THE SUNLIGHT, YOU SEE.

SFX: PA - ENERGETIC

BUT WITH THE WEATHER THAT NICE, I END UP WANTING TO DO THE LAUNDRY AND HANG SHEETS TO DRY IN THE YARD BADLY!

I'M NOT IN ANY DANGER AS LONG AS I JUST SIT HOME DOING NOTHING...

SFX: PINKO - FLICK

SFX: KUSU - SNICKER

HEY, IT'S CAUSE YOU ATTEMPT DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT THAT YOU GET ACUTE ATTACKS OF YOUR DISEASE!

AND I AM SOOOWWY!

WHY DO PEOPLE THINK BAD OF THEM, AGAIN...?

WELL, HAVE FUN TONIGHT THEN!

THE WHOLE NIGHT OF FUN WAITING FOR US!

SHE'S SUCH A CUTIE!

OK!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

JUST HOW MUCH OF FOOLS CAN THE VILLAGERS GET?

SOMETHING SO SMALL WAS ENOUGH FOR THE VILLAGERS TO COMPLETELY CAST AWAY ALL THEIR SUSPICIONS.

So that's how it was!

Ah, exactly!

WHENEVER WE STOPPED TO CHAT THEM UP, NOT ONLY OOKAWA KAZUKO, BUT EVERY SINGLE PERSON BECAME FRIENDLY JUST LIKE HER.

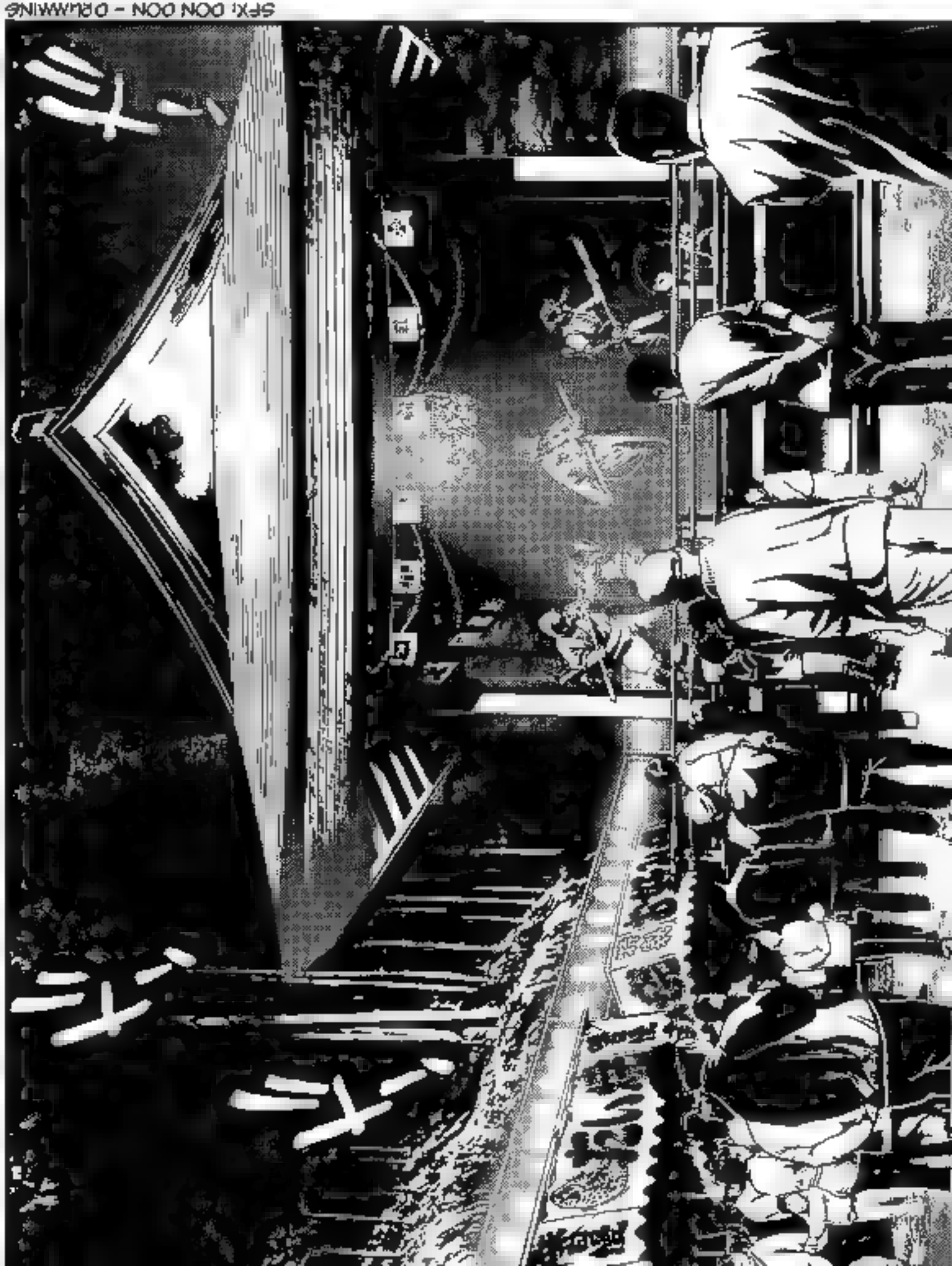
SFX: DON DON - DRUMS

AH...

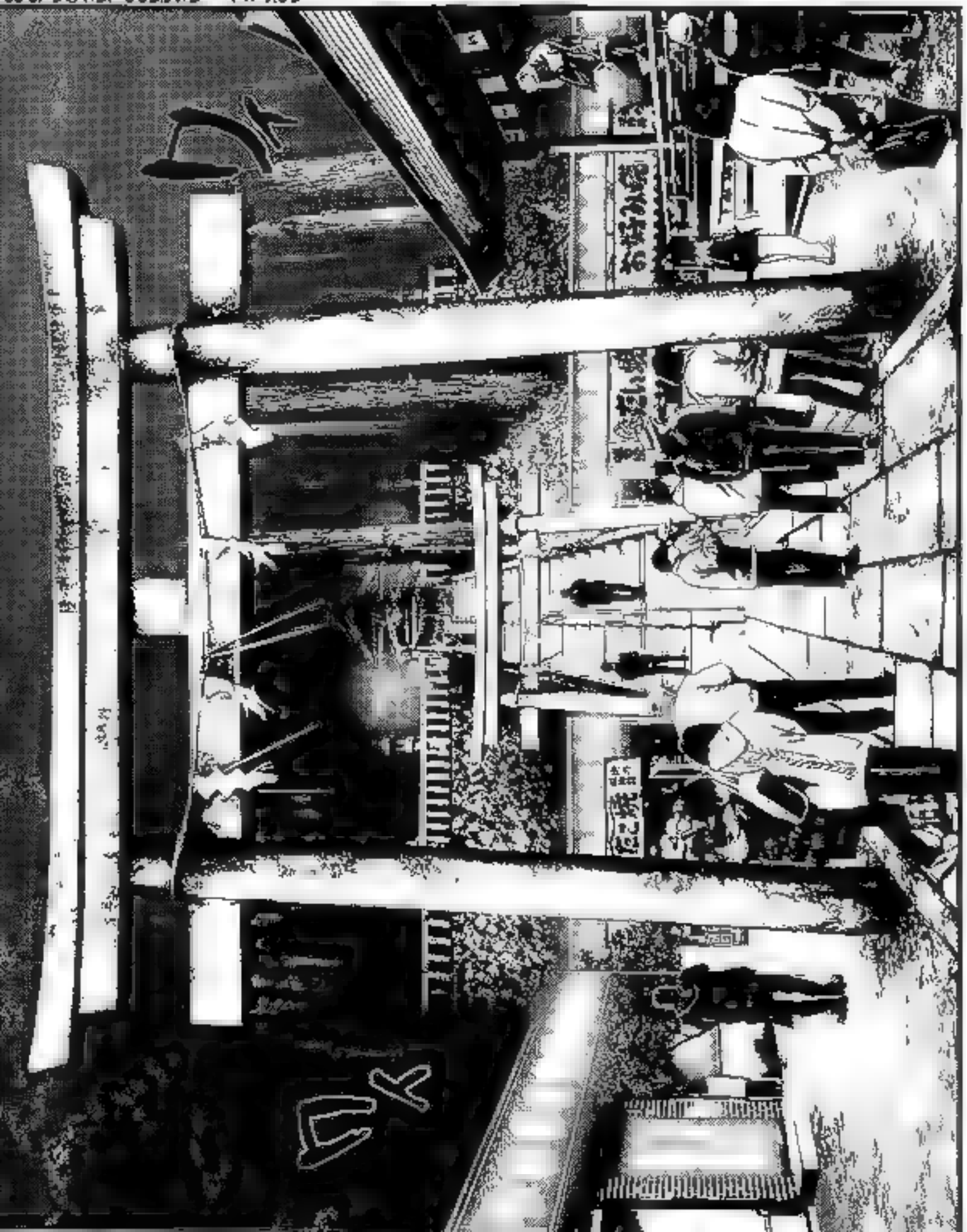
EVERYBODY HAS THAT "AH, SO THAT'S HOW IT ACTUALLY WAS!" PRACTICALLY WRITTEN ALL OVER THEIR FACES!

THIS PROVES TO BE SOOOO EASY!

SFX: DON DON DON - DRUMMING



SFX: WA - EXCITED ATMOSPHERE



IS THERE A REAL DANGER TO YOU IN THERE THOUGH?

HOLY BIBLE

I DON'T THINK THERE IS...

SUNAKO MANAGES TO READ THE BIBLE, AFTER ALL...

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WHY DON'T WE GO THERE?

SFX: GATA - LEGS SHAKING

EVEN MY LEGS ARE GETTING WOBBLY...

I'D LIKE TO... BUT NO, I CAN'T. IT'S SCARING ME TOO MUCH...

SFX: GYU - GRAB

IF YOU'RE SCARED, THEN HOLD MY HAND.

BUT DOESN'T IT LOOK SORT OF SCANDALOUS?

LIKE I GIVE A DAMN!

SFX: JIRO - PEOPLE STARING

COME TO THINK OF IT, INDEED, YOU CAN'T.

I KNOW.

I CAN'T GO AGAINST YOUR ORDER, AFTER ALL.

BUT DON'T YOU TRY TO FORCE ME!

YEAH.

THE PRETENSE OF BEING UNDER HER CONTROL WILL BE BLOWN AWAY!

BURA-FUJIRI

WANDERING AROUND WITH FUJISAKI

ブラフジリ

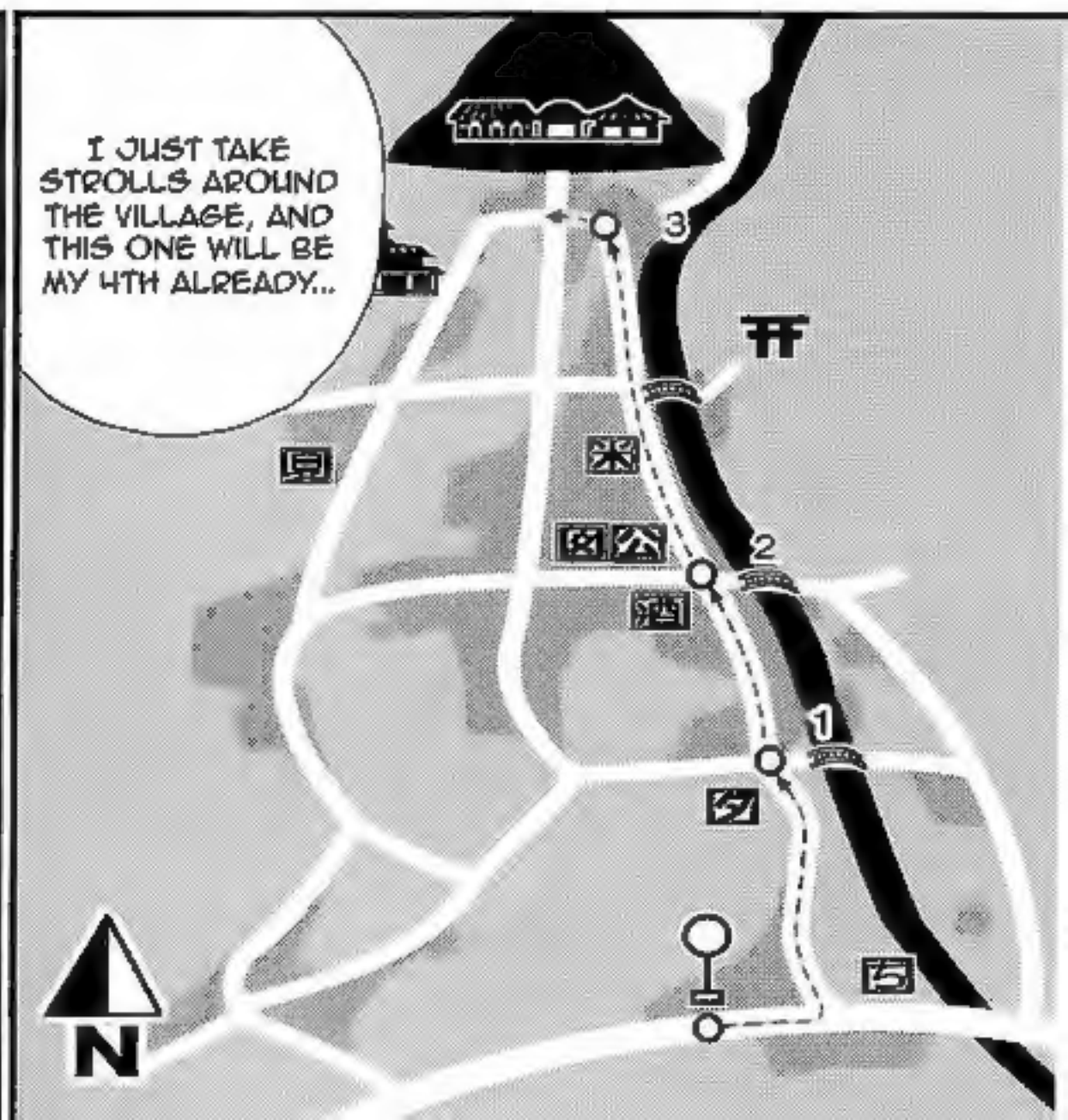
HI THERE, I'M FUJISAKI.

SINCE THE WEATHER IS SO NICE, I DECIDED TO TRY SLEEPING OUTSIDE.

NO, IT DOESN'T MEAN I HAVE NO PLACE TO SLEEP.

I JUST TAKE STROLLS AROUND THE VILLAGE, AND THIS ONE WILL BE MY 4TH ALREADY...

I THINK I'LL HANG AROUND THE TEMPLE THIS TIME.



ORIGINALLY ALL THESE GROUNDS BELONGED TO THE TEMPLE, ENSURING ITS GREAT INFLUENCE AND POWER.

SOTOBA IS AN OLD VILLAGE, ITS FOUNDATION DATES BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THE EDO PERIOD.

Our days ↑ ↑ *Edo period*

IT SEEMS THERE'RE SHOPS SELLING SWEETS AND INCENSE STICKS RIGHT BEFORE THE TEMPLE GATE.

THIS LONG STAIRWAY IS TOO TROUBLESOME TO CLIMB, SO I WON'T GO TO THE TOP GROUNDS.

SFX: TURN

Oh dang!

HOLD ON, I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE EATING MANJUU TOO!

LADY, THAT GREEN ONE, PLEASE.

SOMEHOW, YOUR STORY DOESN'T MOVE FORWARD ONE BIT, YOU KNOW...

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Here ya go

I DECIDED TO HEAD IN THE DIRECTION OF THE OZAKI CLINIC WHILE EATING DANGO I JUST BOUGHT.

MMM! IT'S DELICIOUS!

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SFX: MUNCH-MUNCH